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ARTICLE I. INTRODUCTORY PROVISIONS AND ENFORCEMENT	

Sec. 3-1. SHORT TITLE

This ordinance shall be known and cited as "Tucson Sign Code" or "Sign Code."

Sec. 3-2. DECLARATION OF INTENT

The purpose of this Chapter 3 of the Tucson Code is to regulate outdoor advertising, outdoor advertising signs, and outdoor signs of all types, to provide fair and comprehensive regulations that will foster a good visual environment for Tucson, enhancing the fragile desert in which we live and creating an aesthetic and enjoyable appearance for our visitors and our residents.

The Mayor and Council declare the regulation of signs within the City of Tucson is necessary and in the public interest (a) to safeguard and enhance property values within the City of Tucson; (b) to preserve the beauty and unique character of the City of Tucson; (c) to promote and aid in the tourist industry which is an important part of the economy of the City of Tucson; (d) to protect the general public from damage and injury which may be caused by the faulty and uncontrolled construction of signs within the City of Tucson; (e) to promote the public safety, welfare, convenience and enjoyment of travel, and the free flow of traffic within the City of Tucson.

Any sign authorized in this chapter is allowed to contain noncommercial copy in lieu of any other copy.

Sec. 3-3. CITY OF TUCSON TO FOLLOW CODE

The City of Tucson shall be bound to follow its own Sign Code in all cases other than health, welfare and safety.

Sec. 3-4. INTERPRETATION AND CONSTRUCTION WITH TUCSON CODE

Where there is a conflict between provisions of the Sign Code and other provisions of the Tucson Code, the more restrictive provisions shall prevail.

Sec. 3-5. INTERPRETATION AND CONSTRUCTION

Where there is an overlapping of mapped districts, the most restrictive district shall prevail, i.e.; HISTORIC DISTRICT is more restrictive than DOWNTOWN BUSINESS DISTRICT.

#### Sec. 3-6. REFERENCE TO UNIFORM BUILDING CODES

All code requirements listed in this chapter refer to the most recent edition of the Code adopted by the City of Tucson and the Code as it may be amended in the future including, but not limited to, the National Electrical Code and Uniform Code for Abatement of Dangerous Buildings.

#### Sec. 3-7. VIOLATION A PUBLIC NUISANCE

In the event any person should erect, alter, relocate, or maintain a sign in violation of the provisions of this Chapter 3 of the Tucson Code, it is declared a public nuisance and the City Attorney is authorized to bring an action in court of competent jurisdiction to enjoin such person from continuing the violation.

#### Sec. 3-8. VIOLATION DECLARED CIVIL INFRACTION

It shall be a civil infraction for any person, firm, or corporation to violate any of the provisions of this chapter.

#### Sec. 3-9. ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW

Review of decisions of the Building Official may be taken in the following ways:

- A. Appeal of decisions of the Building Official relating to this Chapter 3 of the Tucson Code and requests for variances shall be made pursuant to this Chapter 3, Article XIV.
- B. Proceedings involving the removal of dangerous or defective signs shall be conducted pursuant to this Chapter 3 of the Tucson Code, Article IX.
- C. Proceedings involving the removal of illegal, abandoned, or prohibited signs shall be conducted pursuant to this Chapter 3 of the Tucson Code, Article XII.
- D. In all other cases and whenever a violation of any of the technical codes or this Code is determined, whether during the construction or plan review stage, and the applicant wishes to appeal the

decision of the staff because of code interpretations, unreasonable hardship or other acceptable reasons, an appeal may be made to the Building Official's Hearing Committee pursuant to the provisions of Section 204(a) of the Uniform Administrative Code.

Sec. 3-10. ADVISORY/APPEALS BOARD APPEALS

If an appeal taken under Sec. 3-9(d) above is denied by the Building Official's Hearing Committee, the applicant may apply to the Advisory/Appeals Board pursuant to the provisions of Section 204(b) of the Uniform Administrative Code and Tucson Code Sec. 6-12 et seq.

Sec. 3-11 -- 3-13. RESERVED

ARTICLE II. DEFINITIONS

Sec. 3-14. DEFINITIONS, SIGN TYPES

A. **ATTACHED SIGN:** Any sign that is fastened, connected, or supported in whole or in part by a building or structure other than a sign structure that is supported wholly by the ground.

1. **AWNING SIGN:** A sign constructed of cloth, plastic or metal and permanently affixed to a structure and intended to provide a shade device.
2. **BANNER, BUILDING, AND CURBSIDE:** A piece of fabric permanently attached by one (1) or more edges to a pole, rod, or cord.
3. **ELECTRONIC MESSAGE CENTER:** An electronic or electronically controlled message board, where scrolling or moving copy changes are shown on the same message board or any sign which changes the text of its copy electronically or by electronic control more than once per hour.
4. **INCIDENTAL SIGN:** A small noncommercial sign, emblem, or decal informing the public of facilities, services, or prohibitions relating to the premises, e.g., a credit card sign, beware of dog sign, or signs relating to handicap facilities.

Incidental signs may not exceed two (2) square feet.

5. **PARKING SIGN:** A sign used to identify a commercial parking facility. Each parking sign must display the standard parking I.D. symbol. A parking sign may be a wall or freestanding sign. (See Figure 3-39-1)
6. **PROJECTING SIGN:** A sign other than a wall sign attached to a building or other structure, which projects from the outside wall of the building.
7. **REAL ESTATE FOR SALE OR LEASE SIGN:** An on-site sign placed upon a property advertising that property for sale, rent, or lease. The sign may display the identification of a real estate agent or broker or of the owner of the premises. A Real Estate for Sale or Lease Sign may be a wall or freestanding sign.
8. **WALL SIGN:** Any sign which is fastened, attached, connected or supported in whole or in part by a building or structure other than a sign structure which is supported

wholly by the ground with the exposed face of the sign in a plane parallel to the plane of the wall. No sign may extend above the top of the facade, eaves, firewall or roofline of a building or structure.

9. WINDOW SIGN: Any sign attached to the interior or exterior window surface.

- B. DETACHED SIGN: Any sign not supported in whole or in part by a building or structure other than a sign structure which is supported wholly by the ground.

1. BILLBOARD: An off-site sign relating to a business activity, use, or service conducted off the site or to a product not sold on the site.
2. DIRECTORY SIGN: An on-site sign not attached to any building and supported by uprights or braces or some object on the ground, and intended to list the tenants and direct one to tenants' location.
3. ELECTRONIC MESSAGE CENTER: An electronic or electronically controlled message board, where scrolling or moving copy changes are shown on the same message board or any sign which changes the text of its copy electronically or by electronic control more than once per hour.
4. EMERGENCY SITE LOCATOR: Signs and markers required for direction of emergency vehicles in multiple tenant complexes.
5. FREESTANDING SIGN: An on-site sign or three-dimensional representation of a figure or object not attached to any building, supported by upright or braces or some other approved support which is capable of withstanding the stress from weight and wind load.
  - a. Monument Type Freestanding Sign. A sign that has been provided with a base of some type (a pole cover or architectural embellishment) or stands alone on its own foundation.
  - b. Low Profile Freestanding Sign. A sign that has been provided with a minimum continuous prepared base or support at least two (2) feet in height which extends in a continuous base to the outside dimension of the sign. To encourage design flexibility, the maximum height of the sign may be lowered in order to decrease required setback from the street.
  - c. Freestanding Pole Sign. A sign that must be provided with a pole cover or architectural embellishment and stands alone on its own foundation. The sign may be higher than the other types of freestanding signs,

must be setback further from the street, and is permitted only for larger premises or developments.

6. FREEWAY SIGN: A detached on-site sign directing attention to a business, commodity, service, or entertainment conducted, sold, or offered upon the same premises as those upon which the sign is located. Freeway Signs are allowed only in Freeway Business Districts.
7. MENU BOARD: A permanently mounted structure displaying the bill of fare of a drive-in or drive-through restaurant.
8. PARKING SIGN: A sign used to identify a commercial parking facility. Each parking sign must display the standard parking I.D. symbol. A parking sign may be a wall or freestanding sign. (See Figure 3-39-1)
9. REAL ESTATE ANNOUNCEMENT SIGN: An on-site sign identifying a proposed development or project. The sign must identify the project and may include leasing information such as a contact person, type of occupancy, opening date, or special features concerning the proposed development.
10. REAL ESTATE CONSTRUCTION SIGN: An on-site sign identifying the name or names of contractors, subcontractors, architects, engineers, material suppliers, and lending institutions responsible for construction, reconstruction, or demolition of the project where the sign is located. The name of the development may also be on this sign.
11. REAL ESTATE DEVELOPMENT SIGN: An off-site directional sign placed at a location other than on the premises of a subdivision or real estate development and is intended to direct prospects to the real estate development subdivision having lots, houses, townhouses, or condominiums for sale.
12. REAL ESTATE DIRECTIONAL SIGN: An off-site sign, which is intended to direct prospects to the unit (non-subdivision) for sale.
13. REAL ESTATE PROJECT IDENTITY ENTRANCE SIGN: An on-site sign displaying the name of the subdivision or development at the major street entrances to the subdivision or development



14. REAL ESTATE FOR SALE OR LEASE SIGN: An on-site sign placed upon a property advertising that property for sale, rent, or lease. The sign may display the identification of a real estate agent or broker or the owner of the premises. A Real Estate for Sale or Lease Sign may be a wall or freestanding sign.
  15. REAL ESTATE RENTAL DEVELOPMENT SIGN: An off-site sign placed at a location other than the premises of a new rental or for lease project offering housing shelter for lease or rent.
  16. REAL ESTATE SUBDIVISION SIGN: An on-site sign placed on the premises of subdivision advertising the real estate subdivision as having lots, townhouses, houses, or condominiums for sale.
  17. TIME, TEMPERATURE, AND WEATHER DISPLAY SIGN (T, T & W): Displays the current time and temperature, and may display the current or forecast weather conditions. This type of sign may be integrated into other allowable sign types without counting toward the allowed signage area.
  18. TRAFFIC DIRECTIONAL SIGN: An on-site sign used to designate the location or direction of any place or area.
  19. OFF-SITE MEDICAL SERVICES DIRECTIONAL SIGN: An off-site sign giving direction to and identifying a medical activity use or service, located within 2,000 feet of a scenic route. Copy limited to business name, address, and directional arrow.
- C. POLITICAL ELECTION SIGN: A sign not permanently installed in the ground or attached to a building relating to the election of a person to a public office, or relating to a

political party, or relating to a matter to be voted upon at an election called by a public body.

- D. TEMPORARY SIGN: Any sign or advertising display, not including a political election sign, constructed of cloth, canvas, light fabric, cardboard, wallboard, plastic or other light material, which is not rigidly and permanently installed in the ground or attached to a building. Temporary signs include, but are not limited to, the following:
  - 1. BANNER, ACROSS THE STREET: A temporary public, cultural, civic event, or activity sign erected across a designated public right-of-way.
  - 2. BANNERS USED AS TEMPORARY SIGNAGE: Temporary on site banner signage used to advertise events lasting for a limited time. This type of banner may also be used to temporarily advertise a business location while permanent signage is being constructed, change of business name, exterior remodeling of tenant space or entire center and during periods of road construction.
- E. VEHICLE SIGN: A sign mounted upon, painted upon, or otherwise erected on trucks, cars, boats, trailers, or other motorized vehicles or equipment.

A. ALTER: To change, modify, or vary an existing sign structure without constructing a totally new sign structure.

B. AREA OF A SIGN:

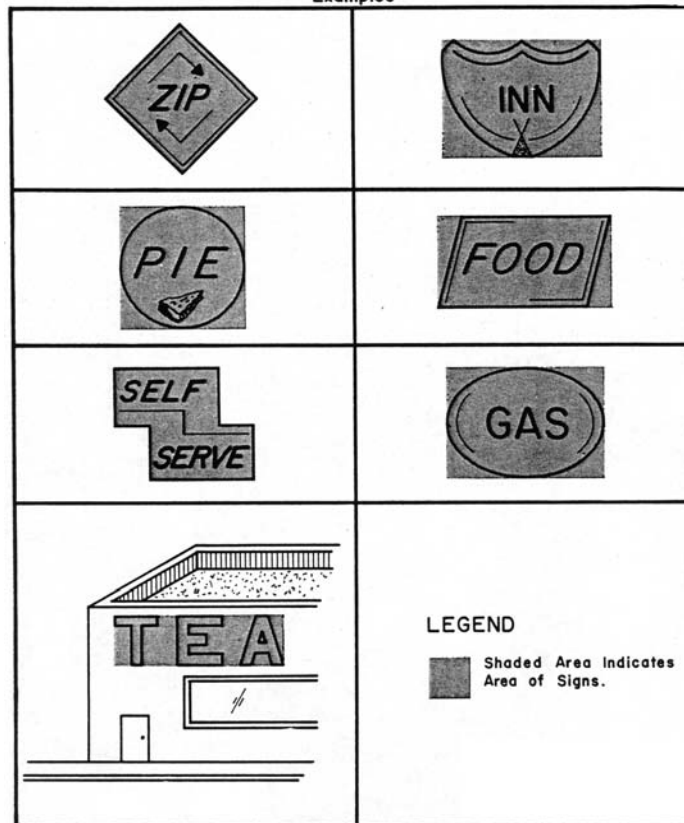
1. SINGLE FACE SIGN: The entire area within a single continuous perimeter composed of square or rectangles which enclose the extreme limits of the advertising message, announcement, declarations, demonstration, display, illustration, insignia, surface, or space of a similar nature, together with any frame or other material, color, or condition which forms an integral part of the display and is used to differentiate such sign from the wall against which it is placed, excluding the necessary supports or uprights on which such sign is placed.

Further, where a sign consists only of individual letters, numerals, symbols, or other similar components and is painted on or attached flat against the wall of a building, and where such individual components are without integrated background definition and are not within a circumscribed frame area, the total area of the sign shall be the area of the square or rectangle which circumscribes the entire message.

2. TWO OR MORE FACED SIGN: Where a sign has two or more faces, the area of all faces shall be included in determining the area of the sign, except that only one face of a double-faced sign shall be considered in determining the sign area, when both faces are parallel and the distance between faces does not exceed five (5) feet or the interior angle does not exceed forty-five (45) degrees if the boards are in a "V" configuration.

# DETERMINING THE AREA OF A SIGN

## Examples



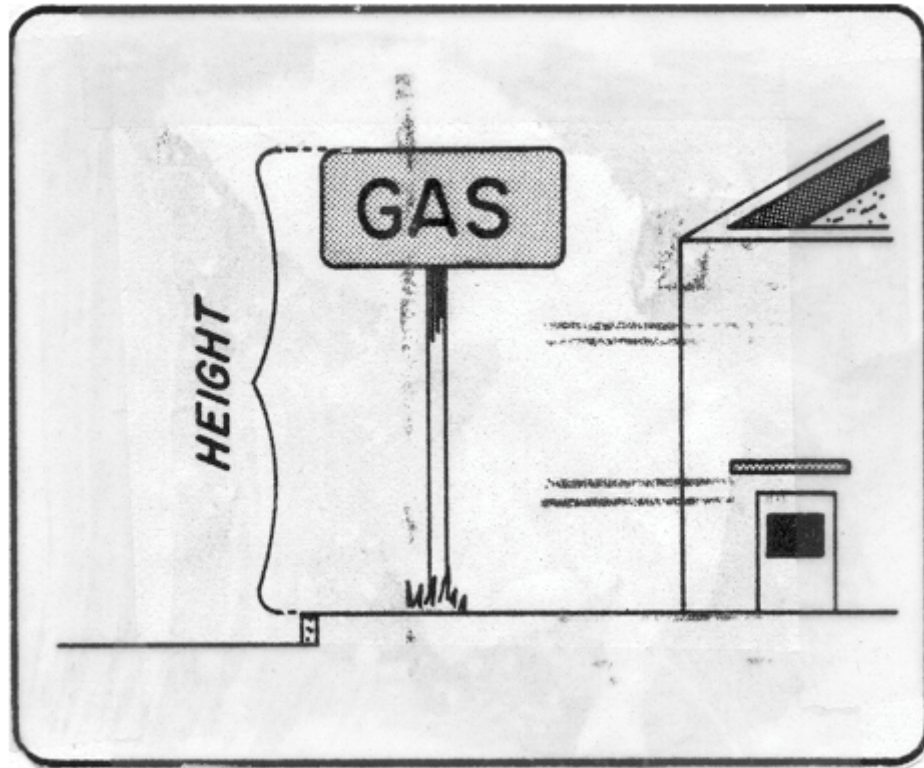
- C. ARTERIAL STREET: A part of the street system which serves the major centers of activity, carries the highest traffic volumes,

accommodates the longest trip desired and carries a high total proportion of the urban area travel. Arterial streets are designated in the Major Streets and Routes Plan.

- D. **CHANGE OF COPY:** Where an existing sign face for an existing business is modified by change of the message or design on the sign face, without any change to the size or shape of the sign framework or structure, excluding billboard, marquee, electronic message boards, menu boards, and approved changeable copy signs.
- E. **CHARITABLE ORGANIZATION:** A charitable or civic entity not organized for profit but operated solely for the promotion of social welfare, the net earnings of which are devoted exclusively to charitable purposes and do not inure to the benefit of any private shareholder, individual, or corporation.
- F. **COLLECTOR STREET:** A street, which provides access services and traffic circulation within residential neighborhood, commercial and industrial areas. Collector streets may penetrate residential neighborhood areas and channel traffic into the arterial system. Collector streets are designated in the Major Streets and Routes Plan.
- G. **DISTRICT:** A readily identifiable geographic area or other areas exhibiting similar uses, character, and identification requirements. A district can be large and may or may not coincide with zoning boundaries.
- H. **FACADE, PRINCIPAL - FACADE, SECONDARY:** A principal facade is the side of the building on which the main entrance is located. A secondary facade is any side of the building except that side which contains the main entrance.
- I. **FREEWAY:** A grade separated expressway with fully controlled access such as I-10 and I-19, which may be titled "Interstate Route", as designated in the Major Streets and Routes Plan.
- J. **GATEWAY ROUTE:** An arterial street designated in the Major Streets and Routes Plan as a heavily traveled entrance to and through the City.
- K. **GRADE:** The lowest point of elevation of a finished surface within a 20-foot radius of the base of the sign or in any case not extending beyond the property line.

L. HEIGHT OF SIGN:

1. In a Freeway Business District, it is the vertical distance measured from the freeway grade to the highest point of the sign.
2. In all other districts, it is the vertical distance measured from the grade to the highest point of the sign.

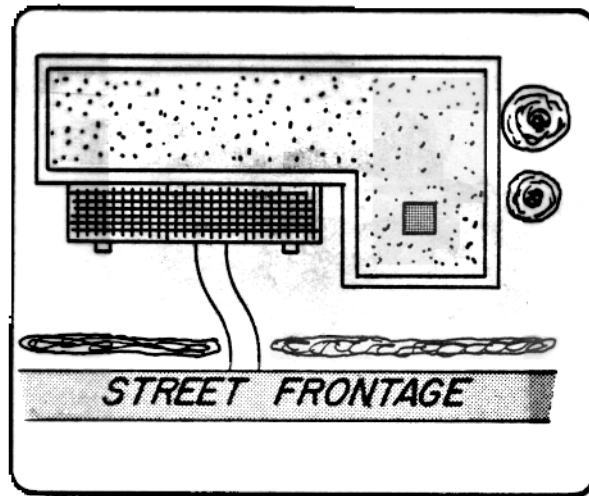


- M. LOGO: A graphic symbol or insignia, which serves to identify a business, building, or complex.
- N. LOT: A parcel of land shown on a subdivision map, record of survey map, parcel map, or a parcel described by metes and bounds. A lot has a minimum of 30 feet of frontage on a public street or private street.
- O. MAJOR STREETS AND ROUTE PLAN: The current plan, as adopted by Mayor and Council, which identify the functional classification of City street, right-of-way widths and development policies. The Major Streets and Routes Plan is an element of the adopted Tucson General Plan.

- P. MALL: A shopping center anchored by two (2) or more major department stores with various specialty stores, totaling 500,000 square feet or more of gross building area.
- Q. MURAL: Noncommercial pictures, not advertising a product or service, which is sold on the premises, painted on or attached to the exterior walls. The subject matter of a mural is expressed by means of a public symbolism easily understood by a general audience.
- R. NONCONFORMING SIGN: A sign legally existing at the time of the effective date of this chapter or a sign legally existing in Pima County at the time of its annexation to the City of Tucson which does not conform to the provisions of this chapter.
- S. OCCUPANCY: The purpose for which a building or part thereof is used or intended to be used.
- T. OFF-SITE SIGN: Any sign not located on the premises of the use identified or advertised by that sign.
- U. ON-SITE SIGN: A sign located on the same premises as the use that sign identifies or advertises.
- V. PARAPET: The top portion of a wall, which extends above the roofline.
- W. PICTOGRAPH: A graphic, symbolic representation of a commonly recognized idea or item excluding words or phrases. Example: A picture of a camera used to identify a photographic supply store.
- X. POLE COVER: Covers enclosing or decorating poles or other structural supports of a sign.
- Y. PREMISE: All contiguous land used and occupied by an establishment whether owned or leased from another. Included are all buildings, parking, storage, service areas, and private roads or driveways, which are an integral part of the establishment.
- Z. PUBLIC USE: Any land or building held, used, or controlled exclusively for public purposes by any department or branch of government, state, county, or municipality without reference to the ownership or the building or of the realty upon which it is situated.

- AA. REAL ESTATE DEVELOPMENT: A development containing 4 or more units.
- BB. REPAIRS: To mend, renovate, or restore a sign structure to its original existing condition.
- CC. SCENIC ROUTE: A major street, which is a recreational route for its own enjoyment and as a route to recreational areas. It is characterized by varied topography, native vegetation, or scenic vistas, which should be preserved. For the purpose of this chapter, scenic routes are those routes so designated in the Major Streets and Routes Plan.
- DD. SCHOOL: Any public, parochial, or private school for teaching accredited courses of instruction as approved by the Arizona Department of Education.
- EE. SIGN: Every advertising message, announcement, declaration, display, illustration, insignia, surface or space erected or maintained in location outside any building and visible to the public or attached to the interior wall of a shopping mall for identification, advertisement, or promotion of the interest of any person, entity, product, or service. Signs within individual mall stores or inside individual business establishments are excluded from this definition.
- FF. STREET FRONTAGE: The length of a lot or development fronting on a public or private street.





- GG. SUBDIVISION: Improved or unimproved land or lands divided for the purpose of financing, sale or lease, whether immediate or future, into four or more lots, tracts, or parcels of land, or if a new street is involved, any such property which is divided into more than two parts. "Subdivision" also includes any condominium, cooperative, community apartment, townhouse, or similar project containing four or more parcels in which an undivided interest in the land is coupled with the right of exclusive occupancy of any unit located thereon, but plats of such projects need not show the building or the manner in which the buildings or airspace above the property shown on the plat are to be divided.
- HH. UNOCCUPIED: A premise or structure which is not occupied or being put to those uses as authorized by the last business privilege license issued by the City of Tucson for that address and business or a premise or structure where the public utilities are not in service.
- II. VACANT: A premise or structure from which the fixtures utilized in conjunction with the business activities as authorized by the last business privilege license for that address issued by the City of Tucson have been removed or a premise or structure where the public utilities are not in service.
- JJ. WALL: an exterior building surface 30 degrees or less from vertical including interior and exterior window and door surfaces.

Sec. 3-16 -- 3-18. RESERVED.



## ARTICLE III PERMITS, FFEES, AND INSPECTIONS

### Sec. 3-19. PERMITS REQUIRED

It shall be a civil infraction for any person, firm, or corporation to erect, reinstall, alter, change the copy, repair, or relocate a sign within the City limits, or cause the same to be done without first obtaining a permit or permits from the Development Services Center as required by this chapter.

It shall be a civil infraction for any person, firm, or corporation to use, maintain, or otherwise allow the continued existence of any sign for which the required permit was not obtained, and each day such violation shall continue shall constitute a separate offense.

A permit shall only be issued to a contractor duly licensed, when required, by the State of Arizona for such work. Signs, which are painted on the walls, windows, or doors of a building, do not require a licensed contractor.

### Sec. 3-20. PERMISSION OF PROPERTY OWNER

No person shall erect, construct, or maintain any sign upon any property or building without the consent of the owner, person entitled to possession of the property or building, if any, or their authorized representative.

### Sec. 3-21. APPLICATION FOR PERMIT

- A. To obtain a permit, the applicant shall first file an application therefor in writing on a form furnished by the code enforcement agency for that purpose. Every such application shall contain the following information:
1. Street address where the sign is to be installed.
  2. Name and address of the applicant and name and address of the owners of the sign, if the applicant is not the owner.
  3. Name, address, and telephone number of sign and electrical contractor, if applicable.
  4. Correct zoning of property.
  5. Identify and describe the work to be covered by the permit for which application is made.

6. Message to be contained on proposed sign.
  7. State the valuation of proposed work.
  8. The signature of the permittee or his authorized agent.
  9. Name of business for which sign is being applied for.
- B. PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS. Scaled plans, diagrams, and other data shall be submitted in duplicate with each application for a permit and contain the following information:
1. Drawing of sign indicating the sign message or copy.
  2. Elevation plan of the building showing the proposed sign on the building.
  3. Site plan indicating street frontage, property lines, sight visibility triangles, proposed and existing rights of way, location of sign on property and relationship of proposed sign to ingress and egress points.
  4. Construction details of the sign, method of attachment (details) including number of, size of, and type of anchors being used, weight of sign or components, and character of structural members to which attachment is to be made.
  5. Illuminated sign plans must provide complete electrical data including type of illumination, number of fixtures, operating voltage, number of circuits, total line load, and location of electrical disconnect.
  6. Certificate of insurance must be on file with Development Services Center.
- C. ENGINEERED PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS. The following signs shall require engineered plans and calculations sealed by an engineer and/or architect registered in the State of Arizona:
1. Detached or freeway signs when the area of the sign or the aggregate area of all signs on the sign structure including the pylon and/or pole cover exceeds 60 square feet.

2. Wall signs in excess of 100 square feet in area or any signs attached to a building in excess of 30 feet from grade to the bottom of the sign, or as required by the plans examiner, except:
  - a. Non-illuminated individual characters or individual graphics fabricated from lightweight material.
  - b. Any signs painted directly upon the wall of a building.
3. All outdoor advertising structures-billboards.

Sec. 3-22. ISSUANCE.

- A. The application, plans, specifications, computations, and other data filed by an applicant for permit shall be reviewed by the Development Services Center. Such plans may be reviewed by other departments of the City to verify compliance with any applicable laws under their jurisdiction. If the Development Services Center finds that the work described in an application for a permit and the plans, specifications and other data filed therewith conform to the requirements of this Code and other permanent laws and ordinances, and that the fees specified in Sec. 3-27 have been paid, a permit shall be issued to the applicant.

When the Development Services Center issues the permit where plans are required, the plans and specifications shall be endorsed in writing or stamped "APPROVED". Such approved plans and specifications shall not be changed, modified, or altered without authorization from the Development Services Center, and all work shall be done in accordance with the approved plans.

- B. **RETENTION OF PLANS.** One set of approved plans and specifications shall be returned to the applicant and shall be kept on the job site at all times during which the work authorized thereby is in progress. One set of approved plans, specifications and computations shall be retained by the Development Services Center.
- C. **VALIDITY OF PERMIT.** The issuance of a permit or approval of plans, specifications and computations shall not be construed to be a permit for, or an approval of, any violation of any of the provisions of this Code, or of any other ordinance of this jurisdiction. No permit presuming to give authority to violate or cancel the provisions of these codes shall be valid.

- D. **EXPIRATION.** Every permit issued by the Development Services Center under the provisions of this chapter shall expire by limitation and become null and void if the work authorized by such permit is suspended or abandoned for a period of 180 days from the date of such permit, or if the work authorized by such permit is suspended or abandoned for a period of 180 days or more at any time after the work is commenced as evidenced by called inspections. Before such work can be resumed, a new permit shall first be obtained, and the fee shall be one-half the amount required for a new permit for such work, provided no changes have been made or will be made in the original plans and specifications of such work, and that suspension or abandonment has not exceeded one year. Where a permit has expired for more than one year, a new permit must be obtained at full fee.

Any permittee holding an unexpired permit may apply for an extension of the time within which he may commence work under that permit when he is unable to commence work within the time required by this section for good and satisfactory reasons. The Building Official may extend the time for action by the permittee for a period not exceeding 180 days upon written request by the permittee showing that circumstances beyond the control of the permittee have prevented action from being taken. No permit shall be extended more than once. Prior to extending the permit, the Building Official may require the plans to be re-examined and/or on-site inspections to be made, the cost of which will be paid by the applicant requesting the extension of the permit.

- E. **SUSPENSION OR REVOCATION.** The Development Services Center may in writing, suspend or revoke a permit under the provisions of this code whenever the permit is issued in error or on the basis of incorrect information supplied, or in violation of any ordinance or regulation or any of the provisions of these codes.

#### Sec. 3-23. EFFECT OF ISSUANCE.

No permit issued for a sign shall be deemed to constitute permission or authorization to maintain a public or private nuisance nor shall any permit issued constitute a defense in an action to abate a nuisance.

#### Sec. 3-24. APPROVAL OF STANDARD PLANS.

A fabricator may submit plans for a sign to the Building Official for approval and file as a standard. Thereafter, permits may be obtained for such signs without refiling detailed structural plans. Such signs shall be given a standard number by the fabricator and the standard number shall be shown on each permit application. Standard engineering (such as that currently used by members of the Arizona Sign Association) may be submitted to the Building Official for approval and filed as a standard. If such standards are submitted and approved for use by more than one contractor, a list of all contractors authorized to use that standard must be submitted to the Building Official by the originator(s) of that standard.

#### Section 3-25. INSPECTIONS.

- A. GENERAL. All signs for which a permit is required shall be subject to inspection by the Building Official, and certain types of construction shall have continuous inspection by special inspectors as required by Sec. 3-26 of this code.

A survey of the lot may be required by the Building Official to verify that the structure is located in accordance with approved plans. It shall be the duty of the permit applicant to cause the work to be accessible and exposed for inspection purposes. The City shall not be liable for expense entailed in the removal or replacement of any material to allow inspection.

- B. INSPECTION REQUESTS. It shall be the duty of the person doing the work authorized by a permit to notify the Sign Section that such work is ready for inspection. The Sign Supervisor may require that every request for inspection be filed at least one working day before such inspection is desired. Such request must be through the inspection request line.
- C. APPROVAL REQUIRED. No work shall be done on any part of the structure beyond the point indicated in each successive inspection without first obtaining the approval of the Building Official. Such approval shall be given only after an inspection shall have been made of each successive step in the construction as indicated by each of the inspections required in Subsection D.

- D. **REQUIRED INSPECTIONS.** Site inspections are required on all billboard applications. The site must be staked indicating property lines required zoning setback, type of billboard, and where the leading edge of the billboard will be. The plan-checking fee must be paid prior to site inspection being done by the Sign Inspector for billboard applications. Site address must be on billboard. See Article VI for additional construction specifications.

Hole inspections are required on all freestanding signs.

The Building Official, upon notification from the permit holder or his agent, shall make the required inspections and shall either approve that portion of the construction as completed or shall notify the permit holder or his agent wherein the same fails to comply with this code.

- E. **REINSPECTION.** A reinspection fee may be assessed for each inspection or reinspection when such portion of work for which inspection is called is not complete or when corrections called for are not made. Reinspection fees may be assessed when the permit card is not properly posted on the work site, the approved plans are not readily available to the inspector, for failure to provide access on the date for which inspection is requested, or for deviating from laws requiring the approval of the Building Official.

The reinspection fee shall be charged for the third and subsequent inspections.

To obtain a reinspection, the applicant must pay the reinspection fee in person in accordance with Sec. 3-27.

In instances where reinspection fees have been assessed, no additional inspection of the work will be performed until the required fees have been paid.

- F. **FINAL INSPECTIONS.** The person erecting, altering, or relocating a sign shall notify the Development Services Center upon completion of the work for which permits have been issued. Approved final inspection is required prior to issuance of Certificate of Occupancy.



### Sec. 3-26 SPECIAL INSPECTOR REQUIRED

The following sign types shall be subject to continuous inspection by special inspectors as provided for in Section 306 of the Uniform Administrative Code.

- A. All detached sign structures exceeding 100 square feet in area or 25 feet overall in height.
- B. All signs attached to a building in excess of 30 feet from the bottom of the sign to grade, if in the opinion of the Plans Examiner the subject sign and/or the particular building structure and/or the method of attachment constitutes an unusual and/or dangerous structure and/or attachment.

## Sec. 3-27. FEES

The following fees shall be charged:

### A. SIGN PERMIT FEES:

1. Banners, across the street  
\$31.25  
per banner
2. Banners, Building and Curbside
  - A. Seasonal and Festive \$ 6.25  
per banner not to exceed \$375.00
  - B. Annual \$ 12.50  
per banner not to exceed \$375.00
  - C. Applicants shall pay an annual fee of 50% of the original fee
3. Banners, Pennants and Balloons
  - A. Banners \$31.25  
per banner
  - B. Pennants \$62.50
  - C. Balloons \$15.60  
per day
  - D. Events sponsored by charitable organizations for the primary purposes of fundraising are exempt from the fee provisions of this section.
4. Billboards up to and including 72 sq. Ft. \$125.00  
Over 72 square feet. \$375.00
5. Courtyard and Mall Signs  

Signs inside malls and courtyards shall pay 80% of the permit fee. The area of signs inside malls and courtyards does not count against otherwise allowable signage area.
6. All other signs

Up to and including 6 square feet	\$ 12.50
Up to and including 25 square feet	\$ 25.00
Over 25 to and including 50 square feet	\$ 46.90
Over 50 to and including 75 square feet	\$ 62.50
Over 75 to and including 100 square feet	\$ 93.75
Over 100 to and including 150 square feet	\$125.00
Over 150 to and including 200 square feet.	\$156.25
Over 200 to and including 250 square feet	\$187.50
Over 250 to and including 300 square feet	\$250.00
Over 300 square feet	\$312.50

7. Electrical permit fee--in accordance with the Administrative Code.

An electrical permit must be obtained for any interior fixed, stationary, or portable self contained, electrically illuminated utilization with designs, words, or symbols designed to convey information or attract attention. Re: NEC Article 600-36.

8. Portable Sign \$25.00

B. PLAN CHECK FEE

Applications for which no permit is issued within 180 days following the date of application shall expire by limitation, and plans and other data submitted for review may thereafter be returned to the applicant or destroyed by the Development Services Center. The Building Official may extend the time for action by the applicant for a period not exceeding 180 days upon request by the applicant showing the circumstances beyond the control of the applicant have prevented action from being taken. No application shall be extended more than once. Where an application has expired, a new application must be submitted and pay a new plan check fee.

The plan check fee is 50% of the sign permit fee.

C. ANNUAL SIGN REGULATION FEE

The sign regulation fee is charged for all attached and detached signs.

#### 1. OFF-SITE SIGNS

\$26.00 per premises plus 18 cents per square foot for all signage on the premises.

#### 2. ON-SITE SIGNS

\$13.00 per premises plus 12 cents per square foot for all signage on the premises.

#### 3. A-FRAME OR PORTABLE SIGNS

A fee of \$100.00 will be assessed yearly for the use of an A-frame or portable sign.

#### D. SIGN RECOVERY FEE

A sign removed by the Development Services Center pursuant to the provisions of this Chapter 3, Tucson Code, shall not be held less than 30 days during which period it may be recovered by the owner upon paying the City for the costs of removal and storage and upon payment of any fine imposed pursuant to this Chapter 3, Tucson Code.

If not recovered within the 30-day period, the sign is declared abandoned, and the title shall vest in the City.

The recovery and storage fees are in addition to any penalty for the violation necessitating removal, and recovery of the sign does not abrogate the penalty.

1. Sign Recovery Fee	\$12.50 per sign
2. Storage Fee	
Signs under 10 sq. Ft	\$.60 per day
Signs over 10 sq. Ft	\$ 1.25 per day

#### E. REPAIR PERMIT

25% of the sign permit fee.

F. CHANGE OF COPY FEE

1. 25% of the sign code permit.
2. A change of copy occurs where an existing sign face for an existing business is modified by change of the message or design on the sign face without any change to the size or shape of the sign framework or structure, excluding billboard, marquee, electronic message boards, menu boards, and approved changeable copy signs.

G. BLANKET REAL ESTATE SIGN FEE

- (1) General. This type of blanket permit allows display of real estate for sale or lease signs and real estate directional signs without the need to obtain sign permits or pay sign fees for each individual sign.

Per broker or responsible party office location..... \$50.00 per year

- (2) Exemption. Neither the blanket real estate sign fee nor any other fee established by Sec. 3-27 shall be charged for either of the following:
  - a. An owner/occupant's display of real estate for sale or lease signs and real estate directional signs for the sale or lease of a residential unit on property where no more than four residential units are located. For purposes of this subparagraph, an "owner/occupant" is a natural person who both owns and occupies one of the residential units on the property that is the subject of the real estate for sale or lease signs and real estate directional signs.
  - b. An owner/occupant's display of real estate for sale and real estate directional signs for the sale of a single-family residence. For purposes of this subparagraph, an "owner/occupant" is a natural person who both owns and occupies, or occupied for a period of at least one year immediately prior to sign placement, the single-family residence that is the subject of the real estate for sale and real estate directional signs.

- (3) Exception. The exemption provided for in Sec. 3-27(g)(2) shall not apply to a real estate agent or broker acting on behalf of an owner/occupant.

H. REINSPECTION FEE

A reinspection fee may be assessed for each inspection or reinspection when such portion of work for which inspection is called is incomplete or when corrections called for are not made.

Reinspection fee	\$25.00
------------------	---------

I. FEES IMPOSED FOR FAILURE TO OBTAIN PERMITS

When any sign is erected, placed, installed, or otherwise established on any property prior to obtaining permits as required by this Chapter 3, Tucson Code, the specified fees shall be doubled; but the payment of such fee shall not relieve any person from complying with other provisions of the chapter or from any other prescribed penalties.

A change of copy of a legal or nonconforming sign without first obtaining a sign permit will pay full sign permit fees.

J. REFUND OF FEES

1. The Building Official may authorize the refunding of any fee paid hereunder, which was erroneously paid or collected.
2. The Building Official may authorize the refunding of not more than 80% of the permit fee paid when no work has been done under a permit issued in accordance with this code.
3. The Building Official may authorize the refunding of not more than 80% of the plan check fee paid when an application for a permit for which a plan review fee has been paid is withdrawn or canceled before any plan reviewing is done.
4. The Building Official shall not authorize the refunding of any fee paid except upon written application filed by the original permittee not later than 180 days after the date of fee payment.

K. RENEWAL FEE

Prior to extending the permit, the Building Official may require the plan to be re-examined and/or on-site inspections to be

made, the cost of which will be paid by the applicant requesting the extension of the permit.

Renewal Fee	\$25.00
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Sec. 3-28 -- 3-30. RESERVED.

## ARTICLE IV. SIGNS BY DISTRICT

### Sec. 3-31. REGULATIONS ESTABLISHED

The regulations in this Article IV are adopted governing the number, size, type, location, and other provisions relating to signs within the various sign districts of the city as the districts are established and designated by the Sign Ordinance of the City of Tucson. No sign shall be allowed in these districts unless exempt under this Chapter 3, or expressly permitted by this article or unless said signs comply with the regulations established in Article X of this Chapter 3 relating to legal nonconforming uses.



## Sec. 3-32. GENERAL BUSINESS DISTRICT

A readily identifiable geographic area or other areas usually fronting on arterial or collector streets including local street frontage extending one block in depth from the primary street. The primary uses in this district may range from a single premise to a shopping center anchored by two or more major department stores with various specialty stores totaling 500,000 square feet or more of gross building area. This district may also include isolated uses of other types.

Within the General Business District, signs are permitted as follows:

MAXIMUM ON-SITE AREA: 3 square feet per foot of street frontage. On buildings having more than one street frontage, the maximum allowable number and square footage of on-site signs are permitted for each street frontage. The maximum allowance, however, is not transferable either in whole or in part from one street frontage to another.

A.     AWNING SIGNS

B.     BANNERS: Building and Curbside

C.     BILLBOARDS

D.     FREESTANDING SIGNS:

1. SINGLE PREMISE - one per street frontage except that, if a sign is placed on a local street frontage, the allowable number of freestanding signs on the major arterial or collector street frontage will be reduced by one.

Where a single street frontage of a premise is in excess of 300 lineal feet, one additional freestanding sign may be erected on that street frontage for each additional 150 lineal feet.

A premise for the purposes of this subsection is a piece of land with definite boundaries, which includes the property and the buildings on it and is separately owned from any other property. A premise must meet the on-site parking requirements under Tucson City Code Section 23-600, ET. Seq., and provide its own ingress and egress to the public right-of-way.

2. STRIP DEVELOPMENT - one per major arterial or collector street to identify the name of the shopping center or for use as a tenant directory. In addition, one freestanding sign will be permitted for each premise, not to exceed 32 square feet in area.

For the purpose of this subsection, a premise is a piece of land with definite boundaries, which includes the property and the buildings on it and is separately owned from any other property. A premise must meet the on-site parking requirements under Tucson City Code Section 23-600 ET. Seq.

A strip development is a group of buildings constructed under a single development plan.

3. MALLS - one per major arterial or collector street to identify the name of the mall. One freestanding sign not to exceed 20 square feet will be permitted for each detached building included on the same development plan.

A mall is a shopping center anchored by two or more major department stores with various specialty stores totaling 500,000 square feet or more of gross building area.

E. MENU BOARDS

- F. REAL ESTATE SIGNS: All types. Does not count against otherwise allowable signage area.

G. TEMPORARY SIGNS

H. TRAFFIC DIRECTIONAL SIGNS

- I. WALL SIGNS: No more than 30% of the area of each wall.

### Sec. 3-33. FREEWAY BUSINESS DISTRICT

(Illustration goes here)

Commercial, office, or industrial uses within 250 feet of I-10 or I-19 right of way or any other freeway which may be established. Freeways are designated in the Major Streets and Routes Plan.

Within the Freeway Business District, signs are permitted as follows:

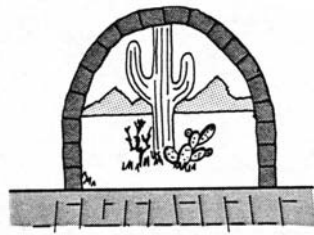
MAXIMUM ON-SITE SIGN AREA: 4 square feet sign area per foot of street frontage.

On buildings having more than one street frontage, the maximum allowable sign area is permitted for each street frontage. The maximum allowance, however, is not transferable either in whole or in part from one street frontage to another.

- A.     AWNING SIGNS
- B.     BANNERS: Building and Curbside.
- C.     BILLBOARDS: Permitted as provided for in Sec. 3-59 and must be within 250 feet of the freeway.
- D.     FREESTANDING SIGNS: 1 per street frontage, except:  
Where a developed parcel has in excess of three hundred feet of street frontage, one additional freestanding sign may be erected for each additional 150 feet of street frontage in excess of the first three hundred feet of street frontage abutting the developed portion of said parcel.

- E. FREEWAY SIGN: 1 sign per premise. Sign must be within 250 feet of the freeway.
- F. MENU BOARDS
- G. REAL ESTATE SIGNS: All types. Does not count against otherwise allowable signage area.
- H. TEMPORARY SIGNS.
- I. TRAFFIC DIRECTIONAL SIGNS
- J. WALL SIGNS: No more than 40% of the area of each wall may be utilized for wall signs.

## Sec. 3-34. HISTORIC DISTRICTS



HISTORIC DISTRICTS are overlay zones established pursuant to Chapter 23, Tucson Code, and are mapped in Figure 2 and 3.

All sign permit applications must be approved by the appropriate Historic District Board.

No signs may extend above the top of the nearest facade, eaves, or firewall of a building or structures.

Building and signs within the historic zone may be illuminated by remote light sources, provided that these light sources are shielded to protect adjacent properties.

Visible bulbs, not exceeding 10 watts per bulb are allowed. Neon tubing is not allowed. Clear Plexiglas and acrylic, when used as a substitute for glass, are allowed; otherwise plastics are not allowed.

Within the HISTORIC DISTRICTS, signs are permitted as follows:

MAXIMUM AREA OF ANY SIGN: 8 square feet.

Signs shall be limited to one sign only for each street frontage per premise except businesses having frontage on more than two streets will be allowed a total of three signs.

- A.     AWNING SIGNS
- B.     BANNERS: Building and Curbside.
- C.     FREESTANDING SIGNS: 1 per premise. Freestanding signs, which include or consist of a three-dimensional representation of a figure or object, are prohibited.

- D. REAL ESTATE SIGNS: All types. Does not count against otherwise allowable signage area.
- E. TEMPORARY SIGNS
- F. WALL SIGNS

INSERT ILLUSTRATION HERE - FIGURE 1





### Illustration #3

#### Sec. 3-35. INDUSTRIAL DISTRICT



A readily identifiable geographic area in which the primary uses are the manufacturing, servicing, or storage of goods.

Within the INDUSTRIAL DISTRICT, signs are permitted as follows:

MAXIMUM ON-SITE SIGN AREA: 4 Square feet per foot of street frontage.

On buildings having more than one street frontage, the maximum allowable sign area is permitted for each street frontage. The maximum allowance, however, is not transferable either in whole or in part from one street frontage to another.

A. AWNING SIGNS

B. BANNERS: Building and Curbside.

C. BILLBOARDS

D. FREESTANDING SIGNS: 1 per street frontage, except:

Where a developed parcel has in excess of three hundred feet of street frontage, one additional freestanding sign may be erected for each additional 150 feet of street frontage in excess of the first three hundred feet of street frontage abutting the developed portion of said parcel.

E. MENU BOARDS

F. REAL ESTATE SIGNS: All types. Does not count against otherwise allowable signage area.

G. TEMPORARY SIGNS

H. TRAFFIC DIRECTIONAL SIGNS

I. WALL SIGNS: No more than 40% of the area of each wall.  
Sec. 3-36. MEDICAL/BUSINESS/INDUSTRIAL PARK DISTRICT

A planned complex of two or more acres and consisting of multiple buildings and tenants that share parking, private streets, and signage.

Within the MEDICAL/BUSINESS/INDUSTRIAL PARK DISTRICT, signs are permitted as follows:

MAXIMUM AREA: 2 square feet per foot of street frontage.

A. AWNING SIGN

B. BANNERS: Building and Curbside.

C. DIRECTORY SIGNS: 1 per two acres of development with 2 square feet per tenant plus an allowance of 20% of the total for an area map.

D. FREESTANDING SIGNS:

a. 1 per street frontage.

b. 1 freestanding sign per building to be located at the building's parking entrance.

c. The allowance for freestanding signs is not transferable either in whole or in part from one street frontage to another or one building to another.

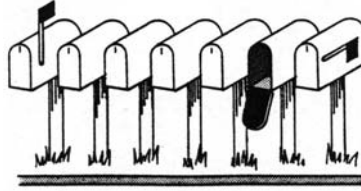
E. REAL ESTATE SIGNS: All types. Does not count against otherwise allowable signage area.

F. TEMPORARY SIGNS

G. TRAFFIC DIRECTIONAL SIGNS

H. WALL SIGNS: MAXIMUM AREA: 8 square feet.

### Sec. 3-37. MULTIPLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT



MULTIPLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT INCLUDES: More than five residential units per acre including apartments, condominiums, townhouses, mobile home parks, public uses, less than 100,000 square feet of floor area. Signs are permitted as follows:

(a) Multifamily complexes: Maximum area per complex shall be fifty (50) square feet.

1. AWNING SIGNS.
2. BANNERS: Curbside and banners used as temporary signage.
3. FREESTANDING SIGNS. Freestanding signs, which include or consist of a three-dimensional representation of a figure or object, are prohibited.
4. HOME OCCUPATION SIGNS: MAXIMUM AREA: 1 square foot of sign area per residential unit. This may be (a) a wall sign, (b) a window sign, (c) a freestanding sign, or (d) an awning sign.
5. REAL ESTATE SIGNS: All types. Does not count against otherwise allowable signage area.
6. TEMPORARY SIGNS: MAXIMUM AREA: 6 square feet.
7. TRAFFIC DIRECTIONAL SIGNS
8. WALL SIGNS

- (b) Public uses, schools, churches, inns, and hotels having less than 100,000 square feet of floor area. Maximum area shall be fifty (50) square feet.

1. AWNING SIGNS
2. BANNERS: Curbside only.
3. FREESTANDING SIGNS. Freestanding signs, which include or consist of a three-dimensional representation of a figure or object, are prohibited.
4. REAL ESTATE SIGNS: All types. Does not count against otherwise allowable signage area.
5. Temporary signs: Maximum area shall be 6 square feet. Across the street banner on arterial and collector streets only.
6. TRAFFIC DIRECTIONAL SIGNS
7. WALL SIGNS

## Sec. 3-38. MUNICIPAL PARK DISTRICT

### A. REGIONAL PARK

A park of at least 100 acres which serves the entire community with structured and unstructured activities as well as passive recreation.

Within the REGIONAL PARK DISTRICT, signs are permitted as follows:

1. AWNING SIGNS
2. BANNERS: Building and Curbside.
3. FREESTANDING SIGNS: 2 per arterial.

MAXIMUM HEIGHT: 14 feet  
CLEARANCE: 0

4. SPECIAL EVENT SIGNS: 1 per arterial

MAXIMUM AREA: 10 feet x 10 feet  
MAXIMUM HEIGHT: 17 feet  
CLEARANCE: 7 feet  
ERECTION: No more than 120 days prior to the event.  
REMOVAL: Immediately upon termination of the event.

5. TEMPORARY SIGNS
6. TRAFFIC DIRECTIONAL SIGNS
7. WALL SIGNS

### B. DISTRICT PARK

A park having 15-100 acres which serves several neighborhoods with a variety of active and passive activities.

Within the DISTRICT PARK DISTRICT, signs are permitted as follows:

1. AWNING SIGNS
2. BANNERS: Building and Curbside.
3. FREESTANDING SIGNS: 2 per entrance.

MAXIMUM HEIGHT: 10 feet  
CLEARANCE: 0

4. TEMPORARY SIGNS
5. TRAFFIC DIRECTIONAL SIGNS
6. WALL SIGNS

C. NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS

A park having 1-14 acres which serves the nearby pedestrian oriented population.

Within the NEIGHBORHOOD PARK DISTRICT, signs are permitted as follows:

1. AWNING SIGNS
2. BANNERS: Building and Curbside
3. FREESTANDING SIGNS: 1 per entrance  
MAXIMUM HEIGHT: 8 feet  
CLEARANCE: 0
4. TEMPORARY SIGNS
5. TRAFFIC DIRECTIONAL SIGNS
6. WALLS SIGNS

### Sec. 3-39. PEDESTRIAN BUSINESS DISTRICT



The boundaries of the Pedestrian Business District are shown in Figure 1.

The Pedestrian Business District is a major pedestrian activity center, which is oriented primarily toward pedestrian traffic. Individual uses do not usually provide off-street parking, and the buildings generally have no front or side yards. Signs should be designed and located to communicate with pedestrians at the street level. Signs should provide clear and understandable identification for buildings, businesses, and parking.

To assist visitors to the Pedestrian Business District in locating available public parking, the standard parking symbol shall be used **(Figure 3-39-1)**

Signs on historic buildings should be carefully designed and located so as to respect the visual integrity of historic architecture including building scale, proportions, surface texture, and decorative ornamentation.

Within the Pedestrian Business District, signs are permitted as follows:

MAXIMUM AREA: 3 square feet per foot of street frontage.

- A.     AWNING SIGNS
- B.     BANNERS: BUILDING AND CURBSIDE.
- C.     FREESTANDING SIGNS: One freestanding sign per building, per street frontage, is permitted where a building facade is set back at least ten (10) feet from a public right-of-way, or for a surface parking lot where parking is the primary use of the property and where each sign displays the standard Parking I.D. symbol.

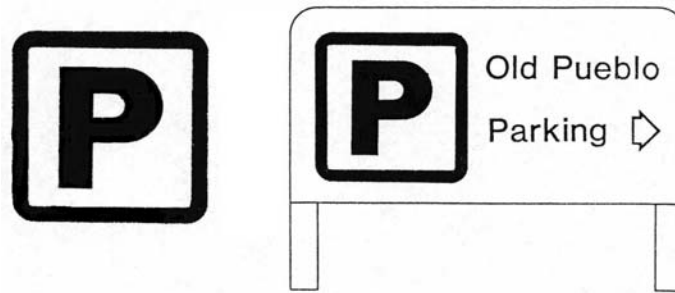
MAXIMUM AREA: Twenty (20) square feet per sign.

MAXIMUM HEIGHT: Twelve (12) feet above grade.

Where used to identify a commercial parking facility, each freestanding sign must display the standard Parking I.D. symbol.

Parking I.D. Symbol: 18 to 32 inches tall

Symbol Border: 1 to 2 inches wide



Additional Lettering: 50% or less as tall as Parking I.D. Symbol

Figure 3-39-1

Parking I.D. Symbol must include the symbol "P" in 18 to 32 inch tall lettering on a solid colored background. Symbol and background must be enclosed within a 1 to 2 inch wide rectangular border. The height of any additional lettering will not exceed 50% of the height of the symbol "P".

- D. MOVING, ROTATING, ANIMATED SIGNS: Not permitted except as follows:

Signs animated by lights, which flash intermittently on and off are permitted only for motion picture theaters and for the display of the current time and temperature. Barbershops may display the traditional revolving cylinder sign with red, white, and blue stripes.

- E. PROJECTING SIGNS: Permitted for any commercial building.

MAXIMUM AREA: Twenty (20) square feet.

MINIMUM DISTANCE FROM GRADE TO BOTTOM OF SIGN: Eight (8) feet.

MAXIMUM HEIGHT: Twelve (12) feet above grade.

MAXIMUM PROJECTION FROM BUILDING: Five (5) feet.

- F. REAL ESTATE SIGNS: All types. Does not count against otherwise allowable signage area.

- G. TEMPORARY SIGNS



H. TRAFFIC DIRECTIONAL SIGNS

- I. WALL SIGNS: No more than thirty percent (30%) of the area of each wall.



### Sec. 3-40. Scenic corridor zone (SCZ) district

This district includes all uses within 400 feet, measured in any direction, of the future right-of-way lines of a scenic route as designated in the major streets and routes (MS&R) plan. (See figure 4 [following this section].)

All signs in this district shall comply with applicable provisions of the Land Use Code (chapter 23 of the Tucson Code) and must be approved through the applicable review process.

All signs shall be located behind a 30-foot landscaped buffer and shall use colors which are predominant with the surrounding landscape, such as desert and earth tones, as required in the scenic corridor zone provisions of the Land Use Code.

If any portion of a development is within the scenic corridor zone district, the entire development will be treated, for sign purposes only, as though it were entirely within the scenic corridor zone district.

Signs are permitted as follows:

(a) Maximum area of signage:

(1) Business/commercial developments:

a. Maximum area: Seventy-five one-hundredths (0.75) square feet per lineal foot of frontage with a maximum of 100 square feet of total signage per tenant.

b. EXCEPTION. The following exception may be applied to a business/commercial development located within four hundred (400) feet of the end point of a scenic route future right-of-way line, provided that the development either (i) has no frontage on the designated scenic route, or (ii) has, in addition to frontage on the scenic route, frontage on the intersecting street at which the scenic route ends, or (iii) is bounded only by development that has frontage on the intersecting street at which the scenic route ends or by street property lines.

## 1) Attached Signs.

Maximum area per lineal foot of tenant frontage.

a) For attached signs that are parallel to the scenic route and less than one hundred fifty (150) feet from the nearest point of the scenic route future right-of-way line, or are perpendicular to the scenic route and less than seventy five (75) feet from the nearest point of the scenic route future right-of-way line, 1.5 square feet per lineal foot of tenant frontage for the first ten lineal feet of tenant frontage and 1.0 square feet per each additional lineal foot of tenant frontage.

b) For attached signs that are parallel to the scenic route and in their entirety are at least one hundred fifty (150) feet from the nearest point of the scenic route future right-of-way line, or are perpendicular to the scenic route and in their entirety at least seventy five (75) feet from the nearest point of the scenic route right-of-way line, 2.25 square feet per lineal foot of tenant frontage for the first ten lineal feet of tenant frontage and 1.5 feet square feet per each additional lineal foot of tenant frontage.

c) For the purposes of this section a sign with an angle of at least fifty (50) degrees to the scenic route future right-of-way line shall be considered perpendicular, and a sign with an angle of less than fifty (50) degrees to the scenic route future right-of-way line shall be considered parallel.

d) The maximum area of total attached signage per tenant shall not exceed one hundred seventy five (175) square feet.

e) An attached sign may be replaced with an attached sign that does not conform with the provisions of this section, provided the area of the replacement sign is ten percent (10 %) less than that of the sign being replaced and the sign permit application for the replacement sign is submitted no later than December 31, 2008.

f) An attached sign that does not conform with the provisions of this Section may be removed and reinstalled without a reduction in area if the removal of the sign is to accommodate the remodeling of the building or structure to which the sign is attached, and the sign permit application for the sign to be removed and reinstalled is submitted no later than December

31, 2005. This provision does not apply to a remodeling connected to a change of use.

2) Detached signs. As otherwise allowed, except:

a) On the scenic route frontage, the maximum area of a freestanding sign may be increased to forty (40) square feet, regardless of the number of tenants, provided the development has a minimum of one hundred fifty (150) feet of frontage on the scenic route and the height of the sign does not exceed eight (8) feet.

b) On the frontage of any arterial street other than the scenic route, the maximum area of the freestanding sign may be increased to fifty (50) square feet. One additional freestanding sign for each additional building in the development is allowed on these frontages, provided the maximum area of each sign does not exceed twenty four (24) square feet, the maximum height does not exceed eight (8) feet.

c) On the frontage of any arterial street other than the scenic route, the total area of freestanding and directional signage per development shall not exceed .33 square feet of area per lineal foot of street frontage.

(2) Home occupation: Maximum area: One (1) square foot as permitted in the Land Use Code.

(3) Multifamily complexes. Maximum area: Twenty (20) square feet per street frontage.

(b) Permitted sign types:

(1) AWNING SIGNS

(2) FREESTANDING SIGNS: One (1) freestanding sign per street frontage provided that the additional street frontage occurs on an arterial street, and the length of the frontage is at least 250 feet.

a. Multifamily residential maximum area: Twenty (20) square feet per street frontage.

b. Commercial or industrial maximum are: Twenty (20) square feet for 5 or fewer; forty (40) square feet for 6 or more leasable spaces.

- c. Freestanding signs that include or consist of a three-dimensional representation of a figure or object are prohibited.
- (3) Menu boards
- (4) Medical services directional sign
- (5) Real Estate for sale or lease signs:
  - a. Residential maximum area: Four (4) square feet.
  - b. Vacant land maximum area: Sixteen (16) square feet. (This is not in addition to any other sign allowed in this section.)
  - c. Commercial and industrial development maximum area: 8 square feet. (This sign must be placed on the building for sale or lease, not on any buffer wall, landscape element, etc. This sign type does not count against the allowable sign area.)
- (6) Real estate project identity entrance sign:
  - a. Locations: At major street entrances to the subdivision or a separately named portion of the recorded subdivision.
  - b. Maximum allowable sign area: Twenty (20) square feet.
  - c. Maximum number: Two (2) signs per street entrance.
  - d. Maximum faces: One (1) per sign.
  - e. Maximum height: Eight (8) feet from grade to top of sign.
  - f. The area of a Real Estate Project Identity Sign does not count against the allowable sign area.
- (7) Real estate subdivision sign:
  - a. Maximum sign area: Sixteen (16) square feet.
  - b. Maximum number: One (1) per subdivision.
  - c. Maximum faces: Two (2).
  - d. Maximum height: Ten (10) feet from grade to top of sign.

- e. Removal: Must be removed immediately when properties are sold.
  - f. Initial permit is effective for twenty-four (24) months. Renewed permits are effective for twelve (12) months, and will be issued only upon a showing of a continuing sales program.
  - g. Real estate subdivision sign area does not count against the allowable sign area.
- (8) Temporary signs: Banners used as temporary signage.
- (9) Traffic directional signs
- (10) Wall signs.

INSERT MAP



## Sec. 3-41. SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT



SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL includes: Single family residences, O-1 office zone uses, public uses, schools, and churches. Signs are permitted as follows:

### A. Single family residences:

1. BANNERS: Curbside only.
2. HOME OCCUPATION SIGNS: MAXIMUM AREA: 1 square foot of sign area as permitted in the Tucson Zoning Code (Chapter 23). This may be (a) a wall sign, (b) a window sign, (c) a freestanding sign, or (d) an awning sign. Freestanding signs which include or consist of a three dimensional representation of a figure or object are prohibited.
3. REAL ESTATE SIGNS: All types. Does not count against otherwise allowable signage area.
4. Temporary signs: Maximum area: Six (6) square feet.

### B. Public Uses, schools, and churches.

MAXIMUM AREA: 20 square feet per street frontage.

On buildings having more than one street frontage, the maximum allowable number and square footage of on-site signs are permitted for each street frontage. The maximum allowance, however, is not transferable either in whole or in part from one street frontage to another.

1. AWNING SIGNS
2. FREESTANDING SIGNS: Freestanding signs which include or consist of a three dimensional representation of a figure or object are prohibited.
3. REAL ESTATE SIGNS: All types. Does not count against otherwise allowable signage area.

4. Temporary signs: Maximum area: Six (6) square feet.

#### 5. WALL SIGNS

- C. O-1 Office Zone uses: This zone provides for administrative and professional uses that complement the residential environment. Development within this zone typically consists of office conversions from existing residential uses fronting on major streets and new construction of small-scale office projects.

Maximum sign area shall be twenty (20) square feet per site.

Color schemes for all sign components, including copy shall be compatible with surrounding residential areas.

Signs shall be illuminated only by low-pressure sodium lighting and shall not be illuminated between the hours of 10:00 P.M. and 7:00 A.M. Signs located on a local street frontage shall not be illuminated.

#### 1. HOME OCCUPATION SIGNS

MAXIMUM AREA: 1 square foot of sign area as permitted in the Tucson Zoning Code (Chapter 23). This may be (a) a wall sign, (b) a window sign, (c) a freestanding sign, or (d) an awning sign.

Freestanding signs which include or consist of a three dimensional representation of a figure or object is prohibited.

#### 2. LOW PROFILE SIGNS:

- a) ONE (1) PER SITE – permitted on arterial or collector streets only.
- b) MAXIMUM FACES: Two (2) per sign, back to back configuration only.
- c) MAXIMUM AREA: Twelve (12) square feet per face.
- d) MAXIMUM HEIGHT: Four (4) feet from grade.
- e) MINIMUM SETBACK FROM CURB TO LEADING EDGE OF SIGN: Twelve (12) feet.

Low profile signs, which include or consist of a three-dimensional representation of a figure or object, are prohibited.

3. REAL ESTATE SIGNS: All types. Does not count against otherwise allowable signage area.

4. Temporary signs: Maximum area: Six (6) square feet.

5. WALL SIGNS.  
Sec. 3-42. SPECIAL DISTRICT

A comprehensively planned development approved by ordinance by Mayor and Council. The development may combine commercial, administrative, professional, residential, business, and other compatible land uses to create an internally oriented, high intensity, mixed use activity center.

Sign plans proposed in planned area developments and redevelopment plan areas will be reviewed for consistency with qualitative plan objectives and approved by the City Planning Director prior to issuance of a sign permit.

MAXIMUM ON-SITE SIGN AREA: 3 square feet per foot of street frontage. Developments having more than one street frontage, the maximum allowable number and square footage of on-site signs are permitted for each street frontage. The maximum allowance, however, is not transferable either in whole or in part from one street frontage to another, except as provided in Subsection I.

Within the boundaries of the SPECIAL DISTRICT, signs are permitted as follows:

- A. AWNING SIGNS
- B. BANNERS: Building and Curbside.
- C. FREESTANDING SIGNS: 1 per building or cluster of buildings (when located on the same lot) per street frontage to be located at the building's street frontage.

The allowance for freestanding signs is not transferable either in whole or in part between street frontages, buildings, or lots within the district.

- D. DIRECTORY SIGNS: 1 per 5 acres of complex with one additional directory sign per each additional 5 acres of complex.
- E. PROJECT IDENTITY ENTRANCE SIGNS: Located at major street entrances to the district:
  - 1. Two signs integrated with landscaping
    - (a) a maximum of one face per sign;
    - (b) a maximum of 100 square feet per sign or;

2. One sign if not integrated with landscaping
    - (a) a maximum of two faces per sign;
    - (b) a maximum of 100 square feet per face.
  3. MAXIMUM HEIGHT: 10 feet measured from the average top of curb of adjacent streets.
- F. REAL ESTATE SIGNS: All types. Does not count against otherwise allowable signage area.
- G. TEMPORARY SIGNS
- H. TRAFFIC DIRECTIONAL SIGNS
- I. WALL SIGNS. No more than 30% of the area of each wall.
1. Any portion of wall sign allowance for a building may be transferred from one street frontage to another for wall sign usage on that specific building.
  2. The allowance for wall signs is not transferable between buildings or lots within the district.
  3. The total square feet of wall sign area for a building may be allocated by the building owner among the tenants of a building.
  4. Tenant identification signage to be placed only on a sign band as delineated in building elevation drawings approved with the related development plan. The sign band shall not be located more than three stories above the average finished grade at the building line, except as provided in Subsection I.5.
  5. Building and/or tenant signage may be placed within discernible parapets.

Sec. 3-43 - 3-46. RESERVED.

## ARTICLE V. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS AND LIMITATIONS

### Sec. 3-47. ADDITIONAL REGULATIONS ESTABLISHED

The sign regulations of this chapter shall be subject to the additional requirements, conditions, and exceptions specified in this article.

### Sec. 3-48. MAXIMUM SIGN AREA

Maximum sign area is determined by district and feet of street frontage.

### Sec. 3-49. SETBACK

The sign and structure must be installed on private property and be set back at least 20 feet from the face of the curb unless otherwise specified.

### Sec. 3-50. SIGNS NEAR RESIDENCES

No off-site sign shall be permitted if such sign faces the front or side yard of any lot within any residential district and is located within 150 feet of such lot line.

### Sec. 3-51 CORNER LOTS

On corner lots, the maximum allowable number and square footage of on-site signs are permitted for each street frontage. The maximum allowances, however, are not transferable either in whole or in part from one street frontage to another.

### Sec. 3-52 INTERSECTION CORNER SIGN

When a sign is erected at the street intersection corner of the lot and is situated at an angle so as to be visible from both streets or both frontages, the sign shall not exceed the maximum area allowed for the longest street frontage. The area of such a sign shall be deducted from the total area and the number of signs permissible on the property.

(Illustration goes here)

#### Sec. 3-53. SIGN PER STREET FRONTAGE

On buildings having more than one street frontage, the maximum allowable number and square footage of on-site signs are permitted for each street frontage. The maximum allowance, however, is not transferable either in whole or in part from one street frontage to another.

EXCEPTION: The more stringent restrictions of the sign district shall apply to freestanding signs.

#### Sec. 3-54. ACCESS REGULATED

No sign or its supporting members shall be erected, altered or relocated so as to interfere with or restrict access to a window or other opening in a building in such a manner as to unduly limit air circulation or obstruct or interfere with the free use of a fire escape, exit, standpipe, stairway, door, ventilator, or window, or similar opening provided, however, that the Building Official may approve another form of sign or its attachment, when in his or her judgment, that sign will not restrict access to the openings.

#### Sec. 3-55. INTEGRATED ARCHITECTURAL FEATURES

In order to encourage and promote a harmonious relationship between buildings and signs, the Sign Code Advisory and Appeals Board shall have the authority to approve a special permit in accordance with Article XIV of this chapter, for signs which are designed into and constructed as part of an integrated architectural feature of a building where the strict application of the provisions of this chapter would otherwise prohibit such signs.

#### Sec. 3-56. SIGNS OVER PUBLIC RIGHTS-OF-WAY

A. Except as provided in subsection (B), a sign or sign structure shall not project over a public right of way or public property unless a special license is granted by the Mayor and Council. Signs licensed pursuant to this section may be displayed for up to (60) sixty days. The licensee shall remove the sign within forty-eight (48) hours after the advertised event.

B. The City Manager or his designee may grant a special license for building and curbside banners and for across the street banners that project or extend over a public right of way or over public property, subject to the following:

1. The sign shall relate only to City-wide civic events sponsored by non-profit organizations, or by individuals conducting the event on a non-profit basis (with fund raising proceeds used for a community benefit). For the purposes of this section, a City-wide civic event is one that:
  - a) celebrates or commemorates the historical, cultural, and ethnic heritage of the City and the nation, increases the community's knowledge and understanding of critical issues, with the purpose of improving citizen's quality of life, or enhances the educational opportunities of the community;
  - b) generates broad community appeal and participation;
  - c) instills civic pride in the City, state, or nation;
  - d) contributes to tourism; or
  - e) is identified as a unique community event.

The event must be open to the public and must not discriminate against patrons in any manner.

2. No sign shall be attached to electric wiring or energized by electricity.
3. No sign shall be placed upon traffic signal posts or signs, and no sign shall obstruct a motorist's view of traffic signals.
4. Any application for a license for a sign attached to utility poles or lamp poles shall include the written approval of the Department of Transportation of the City and the authorized official of the public utility company owning the poles to which the devices would be attached as to the size and weight of the sign and the manner of attachment to the poles. Building and curbside banners shall comply with the requirements of Section 3-58(b). No sign shall be attached to any utility pole carrying primary circuits or to any wooden pole or public property.

5. Signs licensed pursuant to this section may be displayed for up to sixty (60) days. The licensee shall remove the sign within forty-eight (48) hours after the advertised event.
6. In no event may signs relating to more than one event be attached to any single pole.
7. The license shall state the location where the sign may be placed.
8. By accepting any license granted under this section, the licensee, its heirs, successors and assigns shall agree to indemnify the City as provided in Section 3-109, and shall provide proof of liability insurance as provided in Section 3-110.
9. The City Manager or his designee may impose such additional administrative requirements as may be necessary to give effect to this section.

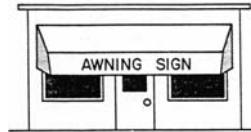
#### Sec. 3-57. ILLUMINATION

Unless otherwise prohibited in this chapter, all signs may be illuminated subject to the provisions of Tucson Code, Chapter 6, Article IV, Division 2, "Outdoor Lighting Code."



## Sec. 3-58. ATTACHED SIGNS

- A. **AWNING SIGNS:** A sign constructed of cloth, plastic, or metal permanently affixed to a structure and intended to provide a shade device.



- B. **BANNERS, BUILDING AND CURBSIDE:** A piece of fabric permanently attached by one (1) or more edges to a pole, rod, or cord. Building and curbside banners shall not be included in the calculation of allowable sign area. All banners must be submitted for permit and must meet all the requirements of this chapter. Faded or tattered banners must be replaced or removed at the discretion of the City sign inspectors. Building and curbside banners may extend or project over a public right of way or public property only as provided in Section 3-56(B).

- (1) Building and Curbside Banners may include logos and pictographs but shall not contain any other lettered copy except;
  - a. Building and Curbside Banners may include festive or seasonal proclamations or may announce cultural or civic events which are open to the public. In such case the banner may devote up to twenty-five (25) percent of the surface area to the name and/or logo of one public, private, or commercial sponsor.
  - b. A banner meeting the criteria for festive or seasonal proclamations may be displayed for sixty (60) days or less and shall be removed within forty-eight (48) hours after the seasonal, cultural, or civic event.

(illustration goes here)

- (2) Maximum area: Twenty-five (25)
- (3) Minimum area: Six (6) square feet
- (4) Maximum number: 1 for every 15 feet of building lengths per street frontage. On buildings having more than 1 street frontage, the maximum allowable number of banners is not transferable from one street frontage to another.
- (5) Maximum number of curbside banners: 1 for every 50 feet per side per block
- (6) Minimum distance from ground level to bottom of banner : Ten (10) feet
- (7) Allowable height: The banner may not extend above the facade or eave of the building or structure and shall not exceed 40 feet above grade level.

- C. INCIDENTAL SIGNS: A small noncommercial sign, emblem, or decal informing the public of facilities, services, or prohibitions relating to the premises, e.g., a credit card sign, beware-of-dog sign, or signs relating to handicap facilities.

MAXIMUM AREA: 2 square feet.

- D. **PROJECTING SIGNS.** A sign, other than a wall sign, attached to a building or other structure and extending: in whole or in part more than 12 inches beyond the surface of the portion of the building to which it is attached; or beyond the building line; or over the public right-of-way.



MAXIMUM AREA: 33-1/3% of allowable wall sign area.

MAXIMUM HEIGHT: 12 feet from grade (pedestrian surface) to top of sign

MINIMUM CLEARANCE: 8 feet between grade and bottom of sign.

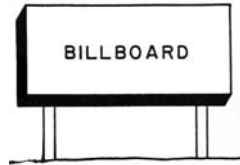
- E. **WINDOW SIGNS:** Any sign attached to the interior or exterior window surface.
- F. **WALL SIGNS:** Any sign which is fastened, attached, connected, or supported in whole or in part by a building or structure other than a sign structure which is supported wholly by the ground with the exposed face of the sign in a plane parallel to the plane of the wall. No sign may extend above the top of the facade, eaves, firewall, or roofline of a building or structure.

(illustration goes here)

1. 25% of additional area of each wall over and above the allowable sign area may be utilized if no other sign types are used or if nonconforming signs are voluntarily removed.

#### Sec. 3-59 DETACHED SIGNS

- A. **BILLBOARD:** An off-site sign relating to a business, activity, use, or service conducted off the site or to a product not sold on the site.



**MAXIMUM AREA:** The maximum area per face includes all embellishments; not more than two faces per sign; vertical or horizontal stacking is not permitted.

1. GENERAL BUSINESS DISTRICT, INDUSTRIAL DISTRICT: 6 feet x 12 feet
2. FREEWAY DISTRICT: 6 feet x 12 feet; 12 feet x 12 feet; 12 feet by 25 feet; 10 feet 6 inches x 36 feet.

**MAXIMUM HEIGHT:**

1. GENERAL BUSINESS DISTRICT; INDUSTRIAL DISTRICT: 16 FEET FROM GRADE TO TOP OF SIGN
2. FREEWAY BUSINESS DISTRICT: 35 feet from freeway grade to top of sign.

**MINIMUM CLEARANCE:** All districts. Four (4) feet from grade to bottom edge of sign.

**MINIMUM SEPARATION:**

1. GENERAL BUSINESS DISTRICT; INDUSTRIAL DISTRICT: The minimum distance between a billboard and an existing billboard shall be 660 feet, measured in all directions and regardless of jurisdiction.

2. **FREEWAY BUSINESS DISTRICT:** The minimum distance between a billboard and an existing billboard shall be 1,980 feet, measured in all directions and regardless of jurisdiction.

**MINIMUM SETBACK AND ORIENTATION:** No billboard or part of a billboard shall be located within 200 feet of a residential zone boundary line. Billboard faces shall be oriented perpendicular to the road on which they are located.

**PROHIBITED ADVERTISING DISPLAY:** Notwithstanding any other provision of the Tucson Sign Code, billboards may not change advertising copy by any type of electronic process or by use of vertical or horizontal rotating panels having two or more sides whereby advertising copy is changed by the rotation of one or more panels.

**PROHIBITED LOCATIONS:**

1. Billboards are prohibited in the following locations: SR Suburban Ranch Zone; RX-1, RX-2, R-1, R-2, R-3 Residence Zones; MH-1 AND MH-2 Mobile Home Zones; O-1, O-2 and O-3 Office Zones; NC Neighborhood Commercial Zone; C-1 Commercial Zone; P Parking Zone; RV Recreational Vehicle Zone; OCR-1 and OCR-2 Office/Commercial/Residential Zones; P-I Park Industrial Zone; RVC Rural Village Center Zone, MU Multiple Use Zone, Medical/Business/Industrial Park District; all Historic Districts; Pedestrian Business District; Scenic Route District; Multiple Family Residential, Municipal Park District, Single Family Residential District, Special District; and airport approach zones (unless prior approval in writing by Federal Aeronautics Administration).
2. Billboards are prohibited on any developed property. Any existing billboard must be removed before a Certificate of Occupancy will be issued for a development on any undeveloped parcel which is subject to the requirements of Tucson Code Sec. 23-409, Tucson Code Sec. 23-534 through 539 or the Uniform Administrative Code, Sec. 302.
3. Billboards are prohibited within 400 feet of the future right-of-way of gateway routes as designated in the Major Streets and Routes Plan.

- B. DIRECTORY SIGN: An on-site sign not attached to any building and supported by uprights or braces or some object on the ground, and intended to list the tenants and direct one to tenant's location.

MAXIMUM HEIGHT: 10 Feet

MAXIMUM FACES: 2 per sign

MAXIMUM AREA: 2 square feet per tenant plus 20% additional square feet for a directional map

MAXIMUM CLEARANCE: 5 feet between grade and bottom of sign

NO SETBACK EXCEPT: a pull out area for vehicles to pause without inhibiting through traffic.

- C. EMERGENCY SITE LOCATORS: Signs and markers required for multiple tenant complexes and multiple building complexes for direction of emergency vehicles.

1. Each building must be identified in accordance with the Uniform Building Code, Sec. 513.
2. A site locator must be located at each vehicle entrance into a complex as follows:

MAXIMUM AREA:

- a. *Complexes* having less than 50 tenants or units: 12 square feet in area
- b. *Complexes* having 51 to 300 tenants or units: 24 square feet in area
- c. *Complexes* having 301 to 600 tenants or units: 36 square feet in area
- d. *Complexes* having more than 600 tenants or units: 40 square feet in area

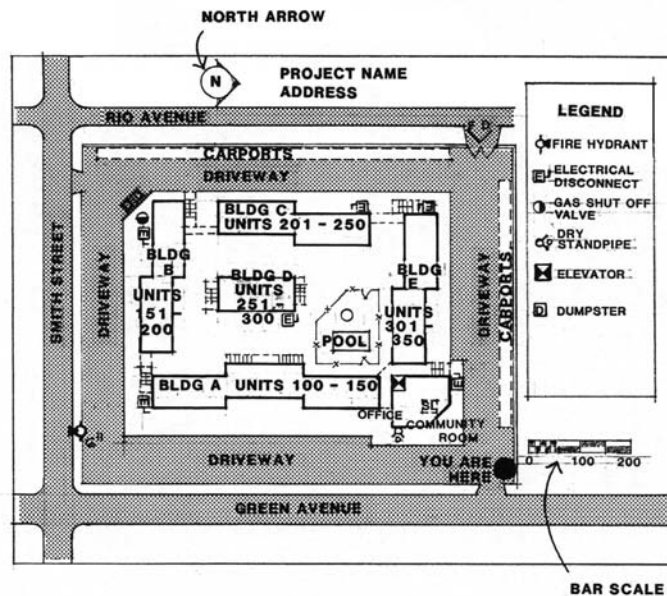
MAXIMUM HEIGHT: 10 feet.

3. Site locators are to be mounted on building walls (or other structures) or they may be placed as freestanding structures. They must be readily visible and readable by emergency h=vehicle operators entering the complex. If sign locators are not easily readable at night (by color or area illumination) they must be individually illuminated. At each entrance, the emergency site locator shall be oriented in the same direction

as the complex it describes. \*If north is to the right, north will be on the right of the sign.) Include a round, red disk "you are here" symbol.

4. Site locators must designate all the entryways, driveways, fire department access points, buildings and other pertinent structures in the complex.
5. Site locators must identify (if existing on site):
  1. Buildings and other structures by address, numerical, alphabetical, or other symbol designation; building walls shall be outlined in single thickness lines. Open, covered structures shall be shown by dotted lines.
  2. Fire hydrants
  3. Electrical main disconnects
  4. Gas shutoff valves
  5. Elevators
  6. Special hazards (such as chemical generators, fuel storage tanks, etc.)
  7. Stairs
  8. Swimming pools
  9. Bodies of water with bridges noted
  10. Railroad tracks
  11. Fences and walls with locations of gates

Symbol Orientation and Representation:



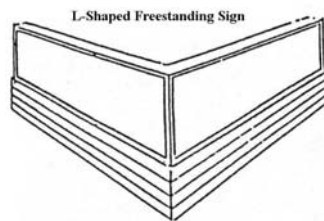
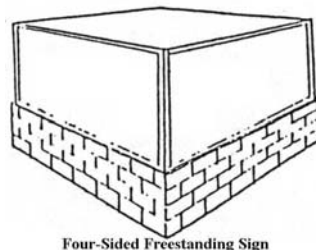
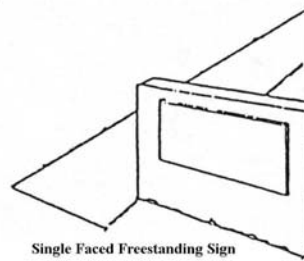
**EXAMPLE OF  
EMERGENCY SITE LOCATOR**

This site will have a second Emergency Site Locator Sign located just off Smith Street. Its orientation will show North toward the top of the sign, rather than to the right, because the emergency vehicle is entering from the South rather than from the East off Green Street. The symbols must always be oriented to the walls, piping, electrical lines, etc. to which they are attached, except where noted. Symbol elements should always be presented at the same relative size.



	FIRE HYDRANT (indicate size)
	SIAMESE CONNECTION (indicate size)
	WET STANDPIPE
	DRY STANDPIPE
	SPRINKLER CONNECTION
	BOOSTER PUMP
	POST INDICATOR VALVE
	FIRE ALARM BELL
	AUTOMATIC SPRINKLERED AREA
	GAS SHUT OFF VALVE
	ELECTRICAL DISCONNECT SWITCH
	ELEVATOR SHAFT (OPEN)
	ELEVATOR (ENCLOSED)
	STAIRS IN FIRE RATED SHAFT
	STAIRS IN COMBUSTABLE OR OPEN SHAFT
	SKYLIGHT
	FENCE AND GATE
	WALL AND GATE
	FIRE DEPARTMENT ACCESS
	RAILROAD TRACKS
	BODY OF WATER AND BRIDGE

- D. **FREESTANDING SIGN:** An on-site sign or three-dimensional representation of a figure or object, not attached to any building, and supported by uprights or braces or some other approved support capable of withstanding the stress from the weight and wind load.



**SIGN A: MONUMENT TYPE SIGN:** A sign that has been provided with a base of some type (a pole cover or architectural embellishment) or stands alone on its own foundation.

1. **MAXIMUM FACES:** Four (4) per sign.
2. **MAXIMUM AREA:** Fifty (50) square feet per face.
3. **MAXIMUM HEIGHT:** Ten (10) feet from grade.
4. **MINIMUM SETBACK FROM CURB TO LEADING EDGE OF SIGN:** Twenty (20) feet.

**SIGN B: LOW PROFILE SIGN.** A sign that has been provided with a minimum continuous prepared base or support at least two (2) feet in height which extends in a continuous base to the outside dimension of the sign. To encourage design flexibility, the maximum height of the sign may be lowered in order to decrease required setback from the street.

1. **MAXIMUM FACES:** Two (2) per sign.
2. **MAXIMUM AREA:** Sixty (60) square feet.
3. **MAXIMUM HEIGHT:** Eight (8) feet.
4. **MINIMUM SETBACK FROM CURB TO LEADING EDGE OF SIGN:** See Table 1.
5. **MINIMUM CONTINUOUS BASE (CLEARANCE FROM GRADE TO BOTTOM OF SIGN):** Two (2) feet.

**TABLE OF ALLOWABLE HEIGHTS FOR  
FREESTANDING SIGNS - LOW PROFILE TYPE**

<b>Distance from Curb to Leading Edge of Sign</b>	<b>Maximum Allowable Height</b>
0'-0"	0'-0"
1'-0"	0'-6"
2'-0"	1'-0"
3'-0"	1'-6"
4'-0"	2'-0"
5'-0"	2'-6"
6'-0"	3'-0"
7'-0"	3'-6"
8'-0"	4'-0"
9'-0"	4'-6"
10'-0"	5'-0"
11'-0"	5'-6"
12'-0"	6'-0"
13'-0"	6'-6"
14'-0"	7'-0"
15'-0"	7'-6"
16'-0" or more	8'-0"
Table 1	

**SIGN C: FREESTANDING POLE SIGN.** A sign that must be provided with a pole cover or architectural embellishment and stands alone on its own foundation. The sign may be higher than the other types of freestanding signs, must be set back further from the street, and is permitted only for larger premises or developments.

Allowed only when there is a minimum of two hundred and twenty-five (225) lineal feet of street frontage or one hundred twenty-five (125) lineal feet of street frontage and four (4) or more business addresses.

1. **MAXIMUM FACES:** Two (2) per sign.
2. **MAXIMUM AREA:** Seventy-two (72) square feet per face.
3. **MAXIMUM HEIGHT:** Twelve (12) feet.
4. **MINIMUM SETBACK FROM CURB TO LEADING EDGE OF SIGN:** Thirty (30) feet.
5. **POLE COVER:** The sign structure configuration must be equipped with pole covers or architectural embellishments that hide or conceal all structural components or braces (such as pipes, angles, iron, cables, internal back framing, bracing, etc.). Minimum requirement is eighteen (18) inches by six (6) inches. The pole cover or architectural embellishment shall require a plan check for construction specifications in accordance with, and as required by, Articles III and VI of this code.
6. **ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS:**
  - a. Allowed only in the General Business District; Industrial District; Medical/Business/Industrial Park District; Municipal Park District; Freeway Business District; and Special District.
  - b. Only one (1) freestanding pole sign allowed per street frontage per premise.

- E. **FREEWAY SIGN:** A detached on-site sign directing attention to a business, commodity, service, or entertainment; conducted, sold, or offered upon the same premises as those upon which the sign is located. Freeway signs are allowed only in FREEWAY BUSINESS DISTRICTS AND WITHIN 250 FEET OF THE FREEWAY.

(ILLUSTRATION GOES HERE)

**FREEWAY BUSINESS DISTRICT.**

**MAXIMUM AREA:** 360 square feet.

**MAXIMUM HEIGHT:** 48 feet from freeway grade to top of sign.

**MINIMUM CLEARANCE:** 14 feet from grade to bottom edge of sign.

- F. **MEDICAL SERVICES DIRECTIONAL SIGN:** Off-site sign giving direction to and identifying a medical activity, use, or service located within 2,000 feet of a scenic route. Copy limited to business name and address and directional arrow.

**MAXIMUM AREA:** Eight (8) square feet.

**MAXIMUM HEIGHT:** Four (4) feet to top of sign.

**PERMITTED:** Only if no frontage on collector or arterial street.

- G. **MENU BOARD:** A permanently mounted structure displaying the bill of fare of a drive-in or drive-thru restaurant

**MAXIMUM AREA:** Forty-eight (48) square feet.

**MAXIMUM HEIGHT:** Seven (7) feet.



- H. **PARKING SIGN:** A sign used to identify a commercial parking facility. Each parking sign must display the standard parking I. D. symbol. A parking sign may be a wall or freestanding sign.



- I. **REAL ESTATE ANNOUNCEMENT SIGN:** An on-site sign identifying a proposed development or project. The sign must identify the project and may include leasing information such as a contact person, type of occupancy, opening date, and/or special features concerning the proposed development.

Does not count against other wise allowable signage area.

MAXIMUM FACES: 2

MAXIMUM AREA: 32 square feet per face.

MAXIMUM HEIGHT: 10 feet to the top of the sign.

MAXIMUM CLEARANCE: 5 feet between grade and bottom of sign.

MAXIMUM NUMBER: 1 sign per street frontage.

REMOVAL: Prior to the installation of any permanent signage for this location.

- J. **REAL ESTATE CONSTRUCTION SIGN:** An on-site sign identifying the name or names of contractors, subcontractors, architects, engineers, material suppliers, and lending institutions responsible for construction, reconstruction or demolition of the project where the sign is located. The name of the development may also be on this sign.

Does not count against otherwise allowable signage area.

MAXIMUM FACES: 2

MAXIMUM AREA: 32 square feet per face.

MAXIMUM HEIGHT: 10 feet from grade to the top of the sign.

MAXIMUM CLEARANCE: 5 feet between grade and bottom of sign.

MAXIMUM NUMBER: 1 sign per street frontage.

REMOVAL: Prior to the installation of any permanent signage for this location.

- K. REAL ESTATE DEVELOPMENT SIGN: An off-site directional sign placed at a location other than on the premises of a subdivision or real estate development and intended to direct prospects to the real estate development or subdivision having lots, houses or townhouses, or condominiums for sale.

(Illustration goes here)

Copy changes allowed for minor items such as price, phase or unit changes, without new permit.

Street location: Major streets (such as section line street, half section line streets, freeways, and parkways) within two miles of project.

Does not count against otherwise allowable signage area.

MAXIMUM NUMBER AND AREA: 3 signs at 72 square feet each or six signs at 50 square feet each.

MAXIMUM HEIGHT: 10 feet from grade to top of sign.

MINIMUM CLEARANCE: 2 feet from grade to bottom edge of sign.

NO INTERVAL LIMITATION:

REMOVAL: Immediately when properties are sold. First permit good for 24 months. Renewal permits 12 months each subject to evidence of a continuing sales program.

- L. REAL ESTATE DIRECTIONAL SIGN: An off-site sign, which is intended to direct prospects to the unit (non-subdivision) for sale.

All signs shall carry the identity and address of the sign owner.

Signage does not count against otherwise allowable signage area.

(Illustration goes here)

MAXIMUM AREA: 4 square feet.

MAXIMUM HEIGHT: 3 feet.

PROHIBITED LOCATIONS: On public right of way.

REMOVAL: Immediately upon sale, rental, or lease of property.

- M. REAL ESTATE FOR SALE OR LEASE SIGN: A sign placed upon a property advertising that property for sale, rent, or lease. The sign may display the identification of a real estate agent or broker or of the owner of the premises.

Does not count against otherwise allowable signage area.



MAXIMUM AREA:

RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES: 4 square feet.

NON-RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES: 32 square feet.

MAXIMUM NUMBER: 1 per street frontage.

REMOVAL: Immediately upon sale, rental, or lease of property.



N. Real estate project identity entrance sign: An on-site sign displaying the name of the subdivision or development at the major street entrances to the subdivision or development.

(1) Locations: At major street entrances to the subdivision or a separately named portion of the recorded subdivision.

(2) Maximum allowable sign area: Twenty (20) square feet.

O. REAL ESTATE RENTAL DEVELOPMENT SIGN: An off-site sign placed at a location other than the premises of a new rental/lease project offering housing shelter for lease or rent.

Copy limits. Copy limited to project name, address, direction, price, and features. This sign is not intended to act as advertising for builders, lenders, management companies, or Realtors.

Copy changes allowed for minor items such as price, phase or unit changes without new permit.

Street location. Major streets (such as section line streets, half section line streets, freeways, and parkways) within two miles of the project. Does not count against otherwise allowable signage area.

MAXIMUM NUMBER AND AREA: 3 signs at 72 square feet each or six signs at 50 square feet each.

MAXIMUM HEIGHT: 10 feet from grade to top of sign.

MINIMUM CLEARANCE: 2 feet from grade to bottom edge of sign.

NO INTERVAL LIMITATION.

REMOVAL: Within 30 days after achieving a 90% occupancy of units for rent but not longer than 12 months after issuance.

- P. REAL ESTATE SUBDIVISION SIGN: An on-site sign placed on the premises of a subdivision advertising the real estate subdivision as having lots, houses, townhouses or condominiums for sale.

Copy changes allowed for minor items such as price, phase, or unit changes without new permit.

Does not count against otherwise allowable signage area.

(Illustration goes here)

MAXIMUM FACES: 4

MAXIMUM AREA: 200 square feet per face

MAXIMUM HEIGHT: 18 feet

MINIMUM CLEARANCE: 2 feet between grade and bottom of sign

MAXIMUM NUMBER: 1 per subdivision

REMOVAL: Immediately when properties are sold. First permit good for 24 months. Renewal permits 12 months each subject to evidence of a continuing sales program.

- Q. TIME, TEMPERATURE, AND WEATHER DISPLAY SIGN (TT&W): A sign, which displays the current time and temperature and may display the current or forecast weather conditions. This type of sign may be integrated into other allowable sign types without counting toward the allowed signage area.

MAXIMUM FACES: 2 MAXIMUM AREA: 66 square feet maximum per face but not to exceed 30% of the allowed area of the sign with which the TT&W is integrated.

ALLOWABLE NUMBER: 1 per site except on corner lots where 2 are allowed but may not add to number of freestanding signs allowed on a site.

MAXIMUM HEIGHT: Same as the sign type with which the TT&W sign is integrated.

- R. TRAFFIC DIRECTIONAL SIGN: An on-site sign used to designate the location or direction of any place or area.

(Illustration goes here)

MAXIMUM FACES: 2

MAXIMUM AREA: 6 square feet per face

MAXIMUM HEIGHT: 3 feet

## Sec. 3-60 TEMPORARY SIGN

**TEMPORARY SIGN:** Any sign or advertising display constructed of cloth, canvas, light fabric, cardboard, wallboard, plastic or other light material, which is not rigidly and permanently installed in the ground or attached to a building. Temporary non-commercial signs may be displayed for 60 days or less unless otherwise specified in this chapter. If the sign relates to a specific event, the sign must be removed within 48 hours after the event. Temporary signs include, but are not limited to the following:

- A. **BANNER, ACROSS THE STREET:** A temporary public, cultural, or civic event or activity sign erected across a designated public right of way. Across the street banners may extend or project over a public right-of-way or public property only as provided in section 3-56(b).

(Illustration goes here)

- B. **GRAND OPENING, SALES, AND CIVIC EVENTS BANNER:** Temporary on-site banner advertising the grand opening, reopening, new management, sales event, or civic event at a specific location. All corners of the banner must be attached to the building wall or facade.

These banners will be allowed to be displayed for a period of forty-five (45) days.

**MAXIMUM AREA:** Ninety (90) square feet.

**MAXIMUM NUMBER:** One (1) banner per street frontage.

**REMOVAL:** After forty-five (45) consecutive days.

Pennants and balloons will be allowed only for a period of 10 days.

- (c) Banners used as temporary signage: Temporary on-site banner signage used to advertise events lasting for a limited time. This type of banner may also be used to temporarily advertise a business location while permanent signage is being constructed, or during a change of business name, exterior remodeling of tenant space or entire center, or periods of road construction. All corners of the banner must be attached to the building wall or façade or a temporary construction structure during periods of remodeling or road construction. This banner cannot be used for more than a cumulative total of ninety (90) days in any calendar year. This banner, if used to temporarily advertise business activities during the course of construction, may be renewed with a permit until construction has been completed.
- (1) Maximum area: Ninety (90) square feet.
  - (2) Maximum number: One (1) banner per street frontage.
  - (3) Removal: Upon completion of construction or as stated on the permit for the installation of the banner.

#### Sec. 3-61 VEHICLE SIGNS

A sign mounted upon, painted upon, or otherwise erected upon trucks, cars, boats, trailers, or other motorized vehicles or equipment.

## Sec. 3-62 PORTABLE SIGNS



An A-frame or portable sign is an on-site square in shape non-illuminated sign temporarily authorized for one (1) year used to advertise the location, goods or services offered on the premises. The portable or A-frame sign must be made of a durable, rigid material such as, but not limited to, wood, plastic or metal.

A-Frames or portable signs are prohibited from any form of illumination, animation, movement and miscellaneous attachments including, but not limited to, balloons, ribbons, speakers etc.

A-frame signs are not permitted in the public right-of-way except where a temporary revocable easement has been granted for their placement.

Maximum height and width: The A-frame or portable sign when placed in an open position must not exceed a height of thirty inches (30") from ground level to the top of the sign and be no more than thirty inches (30") wide.

Maximum number: One (1) per business. Does not count against maximum allowed sign area. The A-frame or portable sign must be removed from the street at their close of business.

Prohibited locations: Site visibility triangles or public right-of-way except as allowed.

Districts: A-frames and portable signs are regulated by district - they are permitted in the General business district, Freeway district, Pedestrian business district, Industrial business district and Special district. A-frames or portable signs are allowed in all districts to advertise those businesses immediately adjacent to and affected by road or water construction regardless of any other code provisions.

Historic district: An A-frame or portable sign may be permitted in a Historic district after a review process by the Development Services Director, the applicable Historic District Advisory Board and the Tucson Pima County Historical Commission.

Sign maintenance. The A-frame or portable sign shall be properly maintained as required in Article IX, Section 3-84.

Application Process. By signing and submitting the application the applicant verifies the following:

1. The property owner or management company is in compliance with their current lease agreement in regard to the permissibility of A-frame or portable signs.
2. The applicant is responsible to research and verify right of way information to ensure that the proposed location of the A-frame or portable sign is on private property and is not located in the City's public right of way.

The City of Tucson, Development Services Department, will process the application and issue the sign permit without a field inspection.

A decal issued by the City of Tucson will be affixed to the upper right hand corner of each visible advertising face. An A-frame or portable sign authorized to be located in the City's' public right of way shall display a decal of a different color than signs not authorized to be in the public right of way.

No refunds of application fees or annual permits will be given under any circumstance.

Placement. The A-frame or portable sign must be located at least two feet (2') back from the face of the curb. No A-frame or portable sign shall be located in a median, driving lanes, parking aisles or spaces. An A-frame or portable sign is not permitted in the City's public right of way without a temporary revocable easement. An A-frame or portable sign shall be placed so that a minimum four feet (4') is left clear for pedestrian passage on all sidewalks and walkways. An A-frame or portable sign shall only be placed at grade level and shall not be placed on walls, boulders, planters, vehicles, other signs or any other type of structure.

Temporary Revocable Easement. A license to permit the placement of a temporary A-frame sign in the public right-of-way may be granted administratively by the building official upon the written terms and conditions as are required by the building official and contained in the written license agreement. The applicant will submit a written application upon a form to be supplied by the office of the building official. The building official will then approve or deny such application. A license to permit an A-frame in the public right-of-way shall not be granted until all other applicable permit requirements contained in this Code are met.

If at any time a license is granted, any portion of the public right-of-way occupied and used by the licensee may be needed or required by the city or the licensee fails to maintain the permitted sign so as to block pedestrian traffic, site visibility, or as described by such specific terms and conditions set forth by the building official, any license granted pursuant to this section may be revoked by the city and all rights thereunder are terminated. The licensee shall and will promptly remove all property belonging to the licensee from the public right-of-way area upon receipt of written notice of revocation. If removal is not accomplished by the licensee within the time specified in the notice, the city will cause the sign to be removed and stored and the cost thereof shall be charged to the licensee. Notwithstanding the foregoing, any A-frame sign placed in violation of the provisions of this section is deemed to be a public nuisance and subject to removal by the city.

Notwithstanding any remedy provided by any other section of this Code, any portable sign placed or maintained in violation of this section is deemed to be a public nuisance and subject to removal by the city after the giving of notice.

Penalties. Noncompliance with any requirements of the A-frame or portable ordinance provisions will result in the A-frame or portable sign being removed if on City right of way and/or a violation notice being issued. If an A-frame or portable sign is not permitted or placed incorrectly, the following civil penalties will apply; first offense, warning plus violation sticker affixed across non-compliant a-frame (**sticker cannot damage sign**); second offense \$130, third offense \$250, fourth offense \$500.

This section to be reviewed in one year by the Citizen Sign Code Committee.



Sec. 3-63 Political election signs.



Political election signs, except for political headquarters signage, are required to satisfy the following restrictions:

- (a) Maximum area: Political election signs cannot exceed six (6) square feet in single-family and multiple-family residential districts, and cannot exceed fifty (50) square feet in all other districts.
- (b) Maximum height: Political election signs cannot exceed ten (10) feet in height.
- (c) Removal: Political election signs shall be removed not later than 15 days after the election to which they refer, except that winners of a primary election need not remove their signs until fifteen (15) days after the general election.
- (d) Locations: Political election signs may be placed on private property only, and cannot be placed without the permission of the property owner as provided in section 3-20. Political election signs cannot be placed in the public right-of-way or on public property. Political election signs cannot obstruct the view of motor vehicle operators or create a traffic hazard as provided in section 3-78.
- (e) Permits not required. Political election signs that comply with the requirements of this section do not require a sign permit, and do not count against a property's otherwise allowable signage area, provided that the person or organization planning to erect political signs first files with the Building Official the name, address, and telephone number of a person who shall be responsible for the proper erection and removal of the signs.
- (f) Maintenance: Political elections signs must be maintained as provided in Article IX of this chapter.

Sec. 3-64. Multipurpose facility wall signs.

- (a) Notwithstanding any other limitations and restrictions set forth elsewhere in this Sign Code, a multipurpose facility is permitted to include as components of its wall signage one or more light emitting diode (LED) or other electronic banners and/or video displays which may include continuously moving words and images. These components shall be used in ticketing areas and other pedestrian gathering areas where, in the opinion of the City Engineer, such signage will not create a traffic hazard and will not be visible or will be only incidentally visible from public rights-of-way or adjacent properties.
- (b) For purposes of this section, the term “multipurpose facility” has the meaning set forth in the definition found at Arizona Revised Statutes section 48-4201.

## ARTICLE VI. CONSTRUCTION SPECIFICATIONS

### Sec. 3-65. COMPLIANCE WITH CODES

All signs shall comply with the appropriate detailed provisions of the City of Tucson Building Code relating to design, structural members, and connections. Signs shall also comply with the applicable provisions of the Electrical and Fire Codes of the City of Tucson and the additional construction standards hereinafter set forth into this division.

### Sec. 3-66. WIND LOADS

For the purpose of determining wind pressures, all signs shall be designed and constructed to withstand wind pressures applied to projected area, allowing for wind in any direction, in accordance with the following table:

EXPOSURE: An exposure shall be assigned at each site for which a structure is to be designed. Exposure C represents the most severe exposure and has terrain, which is flat and generally open, extending one-half mile or more from the site. Exposure B has terrain which has buildings, forest, or surface irregularities 20 feet or more in height covering at least 20 percent of the area extending one mile or more from the site.

Height From Ground To Top Of Sign In Feet	Wind Pressure (Pounds Per Square Foot)	
	Exposure C	Exposure B
1 - 20	25.2	14.7
20 - 40	27.3	16.8
40 - 60	31.5	21.0
60 - 100	33.6	23.1
100 - 150	37.8	27.3
150 - 200	39.9	29.4

### Sec. 3-67. MATERIALS AND EXECUTION (GENERAL)

Materials used in the construction of all signs shall conform to the requirements for building and other structures specifically set forth in the Building Code of Tucson and other minimum requirements as set forth in this section.

Any removable part of a sign such as the cover of a service opening or nonstructural trim shall be securely fastened by chains, hinges, screws, bolts, or other acceptable fastening.

The use of wood plugs or wood wedges as anchorage in masonry walls prohibited and long expansion bolts or other equivalent permanent fastenings shall be used.

On all signs, which are erected within five feet of an area open for the common or general use of the public nails, tacks, or wires shall not protrude. Electrical reflectors and devices may extend beyond the top, bottom, or in front of such signs provided a minimum clearance of at least 8 feet is maintained above ground.

All signs and sign structures shall be free of guy wires and cables. All braces, angle irons, and other supports shall be enclosed or appear to be an integral part of the signs.

All exterior displays of electrical signs or other electrical advertising devices shall be affixed to a permanent foundation or structure with permanently installed electrical circuits and controls.

Sign cabinet to have service access to lamps, ballast, and wiring.

All penetrations of the building structure required for sign installation shall be sealed in a watertight condition and shall be patched to match adjacent finish.

All penetrations, of sign structure, sign cabinet, or other attaching structure, by neon electrodes, must be protected by approved electrode housing as follows:

- A. Neon electrodes penetrating building walls must be protected by "P.K." housing or other approved electrode housing. Open electrode connections, such as "double backs," of neon units are prohibited. Approved electrode connectors such as "Tranasco-D-2 porcelain electrode connector" or other approved electrode connectors may be used to interconnect neon units.
- B. Neon electrodes penetrating metal neon sign cabinets to internal transformers must be protected by approved neon electrode housing designed for that purpose.

No anchor or support of any sign shall be connected to, or supported by, an unbraced parapet wall, unless such wall is designed in accordance with the requirements for parapet walls specified for Seismic Zones in the Uniform Building Code.

All detached sign structures or poles shall be self-supporting structures erected on permanent foundations in compliance with the Building Code. Such structures or poles shall be fabricated only from painted steel or such other materials as may be approved by the Building Official in compliance with the Building Code.

No signs shall be erected, constructed, or maintained so as to obstruct any fire escape, required exit, window, or door opening used as a means of egress.

No sign shall be attached in any form, shape, or manner which will interfere with any opening required for ventilation, except that signs may be erected in front of, and may cover, transom windows when not in violation of the provisions of the City of Tucson Building or Fire Prevention Codes.

Signs shall be located in such a way as to maintain horizontal and vertical clearance of all overhead electrical conductors in accordance with National Electrical Code specifications, depending on voltages concerned. However, in no case shall a sign be installed closer than 10 feet horizontally or vertically from any conductor or public utility guy wire.

All sign contractors/installers must call blue stake and confirm the location of, or absence of, all underground utilities prior to any excavation for sign or structural footings.

A-frame signs shall be constructed of materials capable of supporting the weight of the sign when erected on the site.

## Sec. 3-68. ELECTRICAL REQUIREMENTS

Before installation of any electrical sign, the sign contractor/installer must call for shop inspection.

The City inspector will physically inspect the sign for compliance to local and National Electrical Codes before signing off and attaching the permit to the sign. The shop inspection is in lieu of the required listing as per the National Electric Codes before signing off and attaching the permit to the sign. The shop inspection is in lieu of the required listing as per the National Electric Code, Sec. 600-4. (TAG MUST BE AFFIXED BY THE INSPECTOR).

The sign fabricator must place an identification tag on the exterior of each electrical sign with letters at least one inch in height. The tag must contain the following information:

Sign manufacturer  
Sign erector  
Sign operating voltage  
Number of circuits  
Total line load (VA)

The full number of illuminating elements shall be kept in satisfactory working condition or immediately repaired or replaced.

Signs that are only partially illuminated shall meet all electrical requirements for the portion directly illuminated. All electrical signs shall have a disconnect switch located within sight of the sign.

#### Sec. 3-69. WELDING REQUIREMENTS

- A. All sign contractors, fabricators, erectors, and service establishments engaged in the fabrication, erection, and service of signs and sign structures with combined structure and sign face wind load area exceeding combined structure, sign face wind load areas exceeding sixty (60) square feet, and overall height exceeding sixteen (16) feet from grade requiring structural welding must engage the services of certified welder.
- B. Such certified welder will be responsible to weld or supervise all structural welding required in the fabrication, erection, and service of all signs and structures fabricated and serviced by his employer.
- C. Proof of certification must be filed with the Building Official before any permits for welded signs will be issued.

#### Sec. 3-70 -- 3-72. RESERVED.

## ARTICLE VII. EXEMPT SIGNS

### Sec. 3-73. EXEMPT SIGNS

The provisions of this Chapter 3 of the Tucson Code, including the requirements for permits, shall not apply to the following specified signs nor shall the area of such signs be included in the area of signs permitted for any parcel or use.

1. EMERGENCY SITE LOCATOR SIGNS
2. FLAGS: Flags, emblems, or insignias of any nation or political subdivision
3. INCIDENTAL SIGNS:  
  
MAXIMUM AREA: 2 square feet per sign  
  
A small noncommercial sign, emblem, or decal informing the public of facilities, services, or prohibitions relating to the premises, e.g., a credit card sign, beware-of-dog sign, or signs relating to handicap facilities.
4. MEMORIAL SIGNS OR TABLETS: Memorial signs or tablets, name of buildings, and dates of building erection, when cut into the surface or facade of a building.
5. MURALS
6. SPECIALLY LICENSED SIGNS. Signs on or over public right of way permitted by the Mayor and Council or special license such as signage on bus benches and buses.
7. TEMPORARY SIGNS: Temporary signs except across the street, grand opening, sales and civic events banners and banners used as temporary signage.

Sec 3-74 - 3-76. RESERVED.

### ARTICLE VIII. PROHIBITED SIGNS.



## Sec. 3-77. PROHIBITED SIGNS ENUMERATED

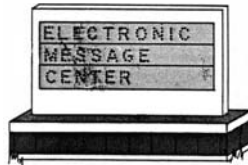
No person shall erect, alter, or relocate any sign of the type specified in this article.

### A. ANIMATED AND INTENSELY LIGHTED SIGNS

No sign shall be permitted which is animated by any means, including flashing, scintillating, blinking, or traveling lights or any other means not providing constant illumination. No sign shall be permitted which because of its intensity of light constitutes a nuisance or hazard to vehicular traffic, pedestrians, or adjacent properties.

### B. ELECTRONIC MESSAGE CENTER

An electronic or electronically controlled message board, where scrolling or moving copy changes are shown on the same message board or any sign which changes the text of its copy electronically or by electronic control more than once per hour.



### C. FIXED BALLOON SIGNS

Except as part of a grand opening, sales or civic events package. This does not include a hot air balloon, which must be manned.

(Illustration goes here)

### D. FLAGS OR PENNANTS

Flags, other than those of any nation, state or political subdivision; propellers and hula strips, except pennants as part of a grand opening, sales or civic events package.

(Illustration goes here)

E. MISCELLANEOUS SIGNS, POSTERS, AND SATELLITE DISKS

The tacking, painting, pasting, or otherwise affixing of signs or posters of a miscellaneous character, visible from a public way, on the walls of a building, barns or sheds, or on trees, poles, posts, fences or other structures, is prohibited.

No signage of any type is permitted on satellite dishes or disks.

Illustration.

F. MOVING SIGNS

No sign or any portion thereof shall be permitted which moves or assumes any other motion constituting a non-stationary or non-fixed condition, except for the indication of the time of day and temperature.

(Illustration goes here)

EXCEPTION: Barbershops, in all districts where allowed by the Tucson Zoning Code, may display the traditional revolving cylinder sign with red, white, and blue stripes.

G. ROOF SIGNS

Signs, which are, erected upon, against, or directly above a roof, or on top of, or directly above, the parapet of a building.

Illustrations here.

H. SOUND, ODOR, OR VISIBLE MATTER

Any advertising sign or device which emits audible sound, odor, or visible matter.

I. VEHICLE SIGNS

Signs mounted upon, painted upon, or otherwise erected on trucks, cars, boats, trailers, and other motorized vehicles or equipment are prohibited; except signs on a truck, bus, car, boat, trailer, or other motorized vehicle and equipment are allowed provided all the following conditions are met:

1. Primary purpose of such vehicle or equipment is not the display of signs.
2. Signs are painted upon or applied directly to an integral part of the vehicle or equipment.
3. Vehicle/equipment is in operating condition, currently registered and licensed to operate on public streets when applicable, and actively used in the daily function of the business to which such signs relate.
4. Vehicles and equipment are not used primarily as static displays advertising a product or service nor utilized as storage, shelter or distribution points for commercial products or services for the general public.
5. During periods of inactivity exceeding five days, such vehicle/equipment are not so parked or placed that the signs thereon are displayed to the public. Vehicles and equipment engaged in active construction projects and on-premise storage of equipment and vehicles leased or rented to the general public by a business engaged in vehicle leasing shall not be subject to this condition.

#### Sec. 3-78. SIGNS CREATING TRAFFIC HAZARDS

No sign shall be permitted at the intersection of any street in such a manner as to obstruct free and clear vision of motor vehicle operators. No sign shall be located at any location where by reason of its position, shape, or color it may interfere with, or be confused with, any authorized traffic sign, signal, or device. No sign may make use of a work, symbol, phrase, shape, or color in such a manner as to interfere with, mislead, or confuse traffic.

#### Sec. 3-79. SIGNS IN PUBLIC AREAS

No sign shall be permitted which is placed on any curb, sidewalk, post, pole, hydrant, bridge, tree, or other surface located on public property or over or across any street or public thoroughfare except as may otherwise expressly be authorized by this Article VIII.

Sec. 3-80. REMOVAL OF PROHIBITED SIGNS BY BUILDING OFFICIAL.

The Building Official may remove or cause to be removed any prohibited sign listed in this Article VIII in accordance with the procedure set forth in Article XII of this Chapter.

Sec. 3-81 -- 3-83. RESERVED.

ARTICLE IX. MAINTENANCE OF SIGNS

#### Sec. 3-84. MAINTENANCE

(a) Each sign shall be maintained in a safe, presentable, and good condition, including the replacement of defective parts, painting, repainting, cleaning, and other acts required for the maintenance of said sign, without altering the basic copy, design, or structure of the sign. Any painted sign that is painted out and repainted exactly as it previously existed is considered maintenance of a sign. The building official shall require compliance or removal of any sign determined by said official to be in violation of this section in accordance with the provisions of the Uniform Code for the Abatement of Dangerous Buildings.

(b) In addition to satisfying the requirements of subsection (a), any sign that is constructed of paper, cloth, canvas, light fabric, cardboard, wallboard, plastic or other light material, and which is not rigidly and permanently installed in the ground or permanently attached to a building, must be removed or replaced within one hundred (100) days after it is installed or erected.

#### Sec. 3-85. DANGEROUS OR DEFECTIVE SIGNS

No person shall maintain, or permit to be maintained, on any premises owned or controlled by him or her, any sign which is in a dangerous or defective condition. Any such sign shall be promptly removed or repaired by the owner of the sign or the owner of the premises.

#### Sec. 3-86. REMOVAL OF DANGEROUS OR DEFECTIVE SIGNS BY THE BUILDING OFFICIAL

The Building Official shall remove or cause to be removed any dangerous or defective sign pursuant to the provisions of the Uniform Code for the Abatement of Dangerous Buildings

#### Sec. 3-87 -- 3-89. RESERVED.

### ARTICLE X. NONCONFORMING SIGNS

### Sec. 3-90. SIGNS FOR LEGAL NONCONFORMING USES

Subject to the provisions of this section, signs for a legal nonconforming use, as defined in the zoning ordinance of the city, are allowed. Such signs shall be allowed only so long as the nonconforming use is allowed. Any such sign legally existing on the effective date of this chapter but which does not comply with the regulations of this Chapter 3 of the Tucson Code shall be deemed to be a nonconforming sign under the provisions of this chapter and shall be subject to alteration or removal in accordance with the provisions of Article X of this Chapter 3 of the Tucson Code.

### Sec. 3-91. MOVING, RELOCATING, OR ALTERING OF SIGNS

Except for reasonable repairs and alterations, no nonconforming sign shall be moved, altered, removed and reinstalled, or replaced, unless it is brought into compliance with the requirements of this chapter, EXCEPT UNDER THE FOLLOWING CONDITIONS:

- A. If the freestanding or detached sign is a legally permitted on-site freestanding or detached sign; and there is no roof or projecting sign existing on that business establishment, the sign may be moved, repaired, altered, removed, and reinstalled or replaced subject to the following conditions:
  - 1. A sign permit must be obtained prior to commencing any such alteration, replacement or relocation. The following information must be attached to the sign permit application:
    - a. Photographs of all existing signs on the property.
    - b. Scaled drawings showing copy, height, sizes and location of all existing signs on the property.
    - c. Scaled drawings showing copy, height, sizes, and location of all existing signs on the property.
  - 2. All signs that are 20 feet in height or less must be decreased a minimum of 10% in height and sign area. All signs above 20 feet in height must be decreased in height at least a minimum of 20% and in sign area a minimum of 20%.

If the sign shares a common structure with other tenants, the area of all tenant signs must be reduced to a smaller total aggregate area, and the height of the common structure must be reduced.

4. The new sign and structure configuration must be equipped with pole covers or architectural embellishments that hide or conceal all structural components or braces (such as pipes, angle iron, cables, internal or back framing, bracing, etc.). The pole cover or architectural embellishment may require plan check for construction specifications.
  5. No part of the relocated sign and/or structure will be permitted to occupy or overhang public right of way.
- B. If the sign is a roof and/or projecting sign and the business establishment does not have a freestanding or freeway sign, the sign may be moved, altered, and installed on a freestanding or freeway sign structure subject to the following conditions:
1. A sign permit must be obtained prior to commencing any such alteration or relocation. The following information must be attached to the sign permit application.
    - a. Photographs of all existing signs on the property.
    - b. Scaled drawings showing copy, height, sizes and location of all existing signs on the property.
    - c. Scaled drawings showing the new configuration of the sign and setback.
  2. The new freestanding or freeway sign configuration and structure must be installed at a lower height above grade than it was in its nonconforming configuration.
  3. The total aggregate area of the new sign configuration must be less than it was in its nonconforming configuration.
  4. The new sign and structure configuration must be equipped with pole covers or architectural embellishments that hide or conceal all structural components or braces (such as pipes, angle iron, cables, internal or back framing, bracing, etc.). The pole cover or architectural embellishment may require plan check for construction specifications.
  5. The sign and structure must be installed on private property and be set back at least 20 feet from the face of the curb unless otherwise specified.



6. No part of the sign or structure will be permitted to occupy or overhang public right of way.
- C. If the sign is a roof and/or a projecting sign, and nonconforming freestanding or freeway signs exist at this business establishment; all roof and projecting signs must be removed, subject to the following conditions:
1. A sign permit must be obtained prior to commencing any such alteration, replacement, or relocation. The following information must be attached to the sign permit application:
    - a. Photographs of all existing signs on the property.
    - b. Scaled drawings showing copy, height, sizes, and location of all existing signs on the property.
    - c. Scaled drawings showing the new configuration of the sign and setback.
  2. The area(s) of roof sign(s) and/or projecting sign(s) may be combined with the area of the existing detached signs and placed on common detached sign structure if the total resultant aggregate area of the new configuration(s) is less than the combined total areas of the affected signs. The result of any combination used may not exceed a total of more than 300 square feet of sign area for each resultant detached sign.
  3. The height of the resultant sign configuration(s) must be less than the previous height of the highest nonconforming sign.
  4. The new sign and structure configuration must be equipped with pole covers or architectural embellishments that hide or conceal all structural components or braces (such as pipes, angle iron, cables, internal or back framing, bracing, etc.). The pole cover or architectural embellishment may require plan check for construction specifications.
  5. The sign and structure must be installed on private property and be set back at least 20 feet from the face of the curb unless otherwise specified.
  6. No part of the sign or structure will be permitted to occupy or overhang public right of way.

- D. A nonconforming sign may not be moved, altered, repaired, removed and reinstalled or replaced if a change of use has occurred on the property or the sign has been declared abandoned, illegal, prohibited, or a change of use has occurred on the property.

Any nonconforming sign moved, altered, repaired, removed, and reinstalled, or replaced pursuant to provisions of Sec. 3-91, retains its classification as a nonconforming sign and shall be treated as such.

Sec. 3-92 -- 3-94. RESERVED.

## ARTICLE XI. CHANGE OF USE

### Sec. 3-95. CHANGE OF USE IN STRUCTURE HAVING NONCONFORMING SIGNS

Any nonconforming sign may continue to be utilized as long as the occupancy of the use within the structure remains the same. When a use changes from one occupancy category to another, all signs shall be

brought into conformance with the provisions of this Chapter 3 of the Tucson Code.

Any occupancy not mentioned specifically, or about which there is any question, shall be classified by the Building Official and included in the group which its use most nearly resembles.

Occupancy Categories:

1. Assembly uses such as theaters, churches, stadiums, review stands, and amusement park structures.
2. Educational uses such as nurseries, childcare, and other educational purposes.
3. Institutional uses such as hospitals, sanitariums, nursing homes, mental hospitals, sanitariums, jails, prisons, and reformatories.
4. Manufacturing and industrial uses such as storage of materials, dry cleaning plants, paint shops, woodworking, printing plants, ice plants, power plants, and creameries.
5. Service facilities such as repair garages, aircraft repair hangars, gasoline and service stations.
6. Wholesale uses
7. Retail uses
8. Office uses
9. Restaurant, drinking, and dining uses.
10. Government uses such as police and fire stations.
11. Multi-occupancy dwellings such as hotels, apartment houses, convents, monasteries, and lodging houses.
12. Single-family dwellings.
13. Parking facilities such as parking garages.

Secs. 3-96--3-98. RESERVED.

ARTICLE XII. REMOVAL OF PROHIBITED, ILLEGAL,  
AND ABANDONED SIGNS

Sec. 3-99. ABANDONED SIGNS AND SIGN COPIES

- A. NONCONFORMING SIGNS. Any nonconforming sign or nonconforming sign structure which becomes abandoned for a

period of six (6) months or more shall be deemed discontinued and removed by the owner of the sign or owner of the premises within thirty (30) days following the date on which the sign or sign structure becomes, or is determined to be, discontinued.

- B. **CONFORMING SIGNS:** Any conforming sign which is located on property which becomes vacant or unoccupied, as defined in Section 3-15 of this chapter, for a period of six (6) months or more shall be deemed to have been discontinued. This provision applies only to the sign copy and not the structure. The sign copy is to be removed by the owner of the sign or owner of the premises within thirty (30) days following the date on which the sign becomes, or is determined to be, discontinued.
- C. **DETERMINATION OF DISCONTINUANCE, RECORDING OF DETERMINATION OF DISCONTINUED NONCONFORMING SIGN:** A check of the business license records and/or utility records will be conducted by sign staff to determine the last date the location was in business. This date will be the starting date to determine when a sign shall be deemed to be discontinued. If the records do not show the license canceled, the starting date for determining when a sign has been discontinued will be the date the property on which the sign is located became vacant or unoccupied. In making a determination that a sign or sign structure is abandoned, the Building Official may, in addition to any other relevant factor, consider whether the property on which the sign is located is vacant or unoccupied, the length of time the property is vacant or unoccupied, the condition of the property, and any acts taken by any person with respect to the property. Upon making a determination that a sign is a discontinued sign, the Building Official shall record a Notice of Determination of Discontinued Nonconforming Sign on the property on which the sign is located with the Pima County Recorder's Office. The failure of staff to record any such notice shall not bar any action to enforce any provision of the Sign Code.
- D. **TEMPORARY SIGNS:** Temporary signs shall be deemed discontinued when the time, event, or purpose to which the sign pertains no longer applies.

#### Sec. 3-100. PROHIBITED SIGNS

Prohibited signs include any sign enumerated and defined in Article VIII.

#### Sec. 3-101. ILLEGAL SIGNS

Illegal signs are those which do not meet the requirements of this code and which have not received nonconforming status.

**Sec. 3-102. REMOVAL OF ABANDONED, PROHIBITED AND ILLEGAL SIGNS BY BUILDING OFFICIAL.**

The Building Official shall remove or cause to be removed any abandoned, prohibited, or illegal sign in accordance with the following procedures:

- A. Whenever the Building Official determines that a sign is abandoned, that person may mail by certified or registered letter or hand deliver notice to the record owner or the occupier of the property to abate the nuisance within 30 days from the date the notice was mailed or delivered.

Whenever the Building Official determines that a sign is prohibited or illegal, that person may mail by certified or registered letter or hand deliver notice to the record owner or the occupier of the property to abate the nuisance within 5 days from the date the notice was mailed or delivered.

The Building Official shall specify in the notice the nature of the complaint, penalties, and abatement remedies. Abatement shall consist of one or more of the following remedies:

- (1) Removal of the sign, or
- (2) Obtaining the required permits and bringing the sign into compliance with this Chapter 3 of the Tucson Code.

- B. The building official or designee may issue or cause to be issued a civil citation or civil complaint to any person violating the provisions of Chapter 3 of the Tucson Code.
- C. Within 15 days from the issuance of the civil citation or civil complaint or at the first appearance date, whichever date comes first, the hearing officer shall dismiss the civil citation or civil complaint if the defendant produces at the administrative hearing office competent evidence of abatement as set forth in Sec. 3-102, and, if necessary, the first appearance date may be continued to permit City verification of the abatement.

**Sec. 3-103. PENALTY**

- A. Any person found responsible under this Article XII shall be guilty of a civil infraction and punished in accordance with Section 28-12 of the Tucson Code pursuant to the procedures outlined in this Article XII and the procedures outlined in Chapter 28 of the Tucson Code. If there is any conflict between the procedures of this section and the general procedures of Chapter 28, this section is controlling.
- B. The hearing officer, upon a finding of responsibility, shall order the abatement of an offending sign within 30 days of judgment unless additional time is requested by the defendant and granted by the hearing officer. The hearing officer, upon expiration of the abatement time, shall order the city to abate a violation in accordance with the provisions set forth in Sec. 3-104 below.
- C. Each day the violation continues shall constitute a separate offense.

#### Sec. 3-104. ABATEMENT BY THE CITY

- A. The City or its agents may enter upon the property and cause the offending sign to be removed at the expense of the owner, tenant, lessee, or occupant either jointly or severally.
- B. A verified statement of the costs or expense shall be sent by certified or registered mail to the record owner at his last known address and to the lessee, tenant, or occupant. The record owner or the lessee shall be liable jointly or severally for the payment of said cost or expense.
- C. The payment for costs or expenses shall be in addition to any civil penalty imposed pursuant to Chapter 28.

#### Sec. 3-105. APPEAL.

An appeal of any judgment rendered under this Article XII may be taken pursuant to the provisions of Tucson Code Section 28-14.

Secs. 3-106--3-108. Reserved.

### ARTICLE XIII. INDEMNIFICATION

#### Sec. 3-109. INDEMNIFICATION OF CITY

As a condition to the issuance of a sign permit as required by this chapter, all persons engaged in hanging of signs which involves, in whole or part, the erection, alteration, relocation, maintenance, or other sign work in,

over or immediately adjacent to a public right of way or public property so that a portion of the public right of way or public property is used or encroached upon by the sign hanger in the said sign work, shall agree to hold harmless and indemnify the City, its officers, agents, and employees from any and all claims of negligence resulting from said erection, alteration, relocation, maintenance, or other sign work.

#### Sec. 3-110. LIABILITY INSURANCE REQUIRED

As a condition to the issuance of a sign permit as required by Article III of this Chapter 3 of the Tucson Code, all sign hangers performing work shall obtain a public liability insurance policy in the minimum amounts of liability insurance policy in the minimum amounts of \$250,000/500,000 for injury or death to any person in any one accident, or for injury or death to two or more persons in any accident; and \$100,000 for destruction of property in any one accident. Said sign hanger shall furnish the City with a certificate of insurance which shall name the City, its officers, agents, and employees as additional insured under said policy. Said insurance shall provide that the City shall be notified of any cancellation of said insurance 10 days prior to the date of cancellation.

#### Sec. 3-111--3-113. RESERVED.

### ARTICLE XIV. SIGN CODE ADVISORY AND APPEALS BOARD

#### Sec. 3-114. SIGN CODE ADVISORY AND APPEALS BOARD: INTENT, PURPOSE, AND ESTABLISHMENT THEREOF.



- A. There is hereby established a Sign Code Advisory and Appeals Board. It shall be the purpose of the Board to interpret, protect, and insure the validity of the Tucson Sign Code.
- B. The Sign Code Advisory and Appeals Board shall hear and decide applications for variances from the provisions of the Tucson Sign Code and appeals from determinations of the Building Official in the application and enforcement of the Tucson Sign Code.

Sec. 3-115. MEMBERSHIP, TERM, REMOVAL FROM OFFICE.

- A. The Sign Code Advisory and Appeals Board shall be composed of seven members appointed by the Mayor and Council as follows:
  - 1. One representative of the sign industry
  - 2. One member of the real estate or construction industry
  - 3. One representative from the hotel, resort and restaurant industry
  - 4. One small business representative
  - 5. One auto dealership representative
  - 6. One architect
  - 7. One person "representing the environment"
- B. All members of the Board shall be residents of the City and shall serve without compensation. Appointees to the Board shall serve staggered terms of four years. Appointments to fill vacancies shall be for the unexpired term. No member of the board shall hold any city, county or state elective office.
- C. A member may be removed for just cause by the vote of two-thirds of the Mayor and Council voting affirmatively therefor.

Sec. 3-116. ELECTION OF OFFICERS, MEETINGS, RULES AND REGULATIONS, RECORDS.

- A. The Sign Code Advisory and Appeals Board shall elect a Chairman and Vice-Chairman from among its members. The Board shall hold at least one regular meeting per month in transaction of business and shall keep a record of its resolutions, transactions, findings, and determinations which shall be a public record, and shall adopt rules and regulations, consistent with law, which may be necessary and convenient for carrying out its functions. Copies of such rules and regulations shall be made available to the public by the Development Services Center Building Code Administrator. The chairperson, or in his or her absence the vice-chairperson, may

administer oaths, take evidence, and compel the attendance of witnesses.

#### Sec. 3-117. QUORUM

- A. The presence of four members shall constitute a quorum. The concurring vote of four members of the Board shall be necessary to grant any variance from the provisions of this Chapter 3 of the Tucson Code.

#### Sec. 3-118. POWERS, DUTIES, AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The Sign Code Advisory and Appeals Board shall have the power to grant variances and to review decisions of the Building Official as specified in this section.

- A. **APPEALS.** To hear and decide appeals where it is alleged that there is error or abuse of discretion in any order, requirement, decision, interpretation, or other determination made by the Building Official in the enforcement of the Tucson Sign Code.
- B. **VARIANCES.** Hear and decide, grant, or deny requests for variances from the provisions of the Tucson Sign Code.

In granting a variance, the Board may attach such reasonable conditions as it may deem necessary to implement the purposes of the Tucson Sign Code.

#### Sec. 3-119. FINDINGS REQUIRED IN GRANTING VARIANCES

The Sign Code Advisory and Appeals Board may grant a variance only if it finds:

- A. That, because there are special circumstances applicable to the property, strict enforcement of this Chapter 3 of the Tucson Code would deprive the property of privileges enjoyed by other property in the same district.
- B. That the variance will not result in a special privilege to one individual property and the circumstances are such that the variance would be appropriate for any property owner facing similar circumstances.
- C. That the requested variance will not materially and adversely affect the health and safety of persons residing or working in the neighborhood and will not be materially detrimental to the public

welfare or injurious to property and improvements in the neighborhood.

- D. That the need for a variance is not the result of special circumstances or conditions which were self-imposed or created by the owner or one in possession of the property.
- E. That the variance, if granted, is the minimum variance that will afford relief and is the least modification possible of the sign code provisions which are in question.
- F. That because of physical circumstances or conditions such as irregular shape, narrowness, or shallowness of the lot or exceptional topographic condition of the specific property, the property cannot reasonably be signed in conformity with the provisions of this chapter.

#### Sec. 3-120. POWERS DENIED THE BOARD

The Sign Code Advisory and Appeals Board may not:

- A. Make any changes in the wording or terms or provisions of the Sign Code.
- B. Grant a variance if the special circumstances or conditions applicable to the property were self-imposed or created by the owner or one in possession of the property.
- C. Grant a variance to a substantially greater extent or degree than indicated in the public notice of the hearing thereon.
- D. Grant a variance for pole signs in the freeway business district to exceed:

48 feet above the freeway grade maximum height  
360 square feet maximum area  
13 feet minimum clearance

#### Sec. 3-121. APPLICATION TO THE BOARD.

- A. An application to the Sign Code Advisory and Appeals Board or an appeal from the Development Services Center Building Code

Administrator, pursuant to Sec. 3-125B, shall be filed with the Development Services Center Building Code Administrator who shall transmit the same together with all fees, plans, papers, the report of the Development Services Center Building Code Administrator, and all other materials pertaining to the matter to the Sign Code Advisory and Appeals Board.

- B. APPLICATION FOR VARIANCE. Applications for a variance shall be written on forms prescribed by the Development Services Center and shall be accompanied by statements, plans, and other relevant evidence.
- C. STAFF REPORT. The Development Services Center Building Codes Administrator shall, on each request for a variance, make a recommendation to the Sign Code Advisory and Appeals Board. This recommendation may be included as part of the staff's report to the Sign Code Advisory and Appeals Board or it may be transmitted separately.

#### Sec. 3-122. APPEALS STAY PROCEEDING.

An appeal stays all proceedings in the matter appealed from unless the Development Services Center Building Code Administrator certifies to the Board that, in his opinion by facts stated in the certificate, a stay could cause imminent peril to life or property. Upon such certification, proceedings shall not be stayed except by restraining order granted by the Board or by a court of record on application and notice to the Development Services Center Building Code Administrator.

#### Sec. 3-123. TIME FOR HEARINGS--NOTICE

The Sign Code Advisory and Appeals Board shall fix a reasonable time for the hearing of an application or of an appeal. Notice of the time and place of the public hearing shall be given at least 15 and not more than 30 calendar days prior to the hearing by:

- A. Publication at least once in a newspaper of general circulation published or circulated in the City of Tucson.
- B. By posting notice in conspicuous places close to the property affected.
- C. Such other manner as is deemed desirable.
- D. A notice of the proposed variance hearing shall be mailed to all property owners of record of property located within 150 feet of the

property on which the variance is requested. Said notices shall be mailed not less than 10 days prior to the date of the hearing.

#### Sec. 3-124. FEES AND ENFORCEMENT

- A. A fee of \$200 shall be paid upon the filing of each application for a variance from the provisions of this article.
- B. A fee of \$100 shall be paid upon the filing of each application for an appeal from a decision of the Development Services Center Building Code Administrator regarding Articles IV, V, and X.
- C. If a person fails to comply with the decision or requirements of the Sign Code Advisory and Appeals Board or continues to violate the provisions of this Chapter after being denied a variance, the Sign Inspector may disconnect, or order utility companies to disconnect, utility services to the premises involved until compliance therewith or have the sign removed. No such action by the inspector shall be taken until 10 days after receipt by the person or owner of the premises of written notice of intent to take such action.

If a written request for a review of the matter is made within 10 days after receipt of the notice of intent, the action by the Sign Inspection shall be stayed until a hearing thereon by the Sign Code Advisory and Appeals Board. The Board may affirm, reverse, or modify the inspector's proposed action.

This provision does not preclude the use of any other enforcement method provided in the Tucson Code.

#### Sec. 3-125. APPEAL FROM BOARD

Any person or persons, jointly or severally, aggrieved by any decision of the Sign Code Advisory and Appeals Board, or any taxpayer, or any officer, department, board or bureau of the City may after the board has rendered its decision:

A. File an action under the Arizona Rules of Civil Procedure, "Rules of Procedure for Special Action", seeking a judicial review of the decision. The filing of the petition shall not stay proceedings upon the decision appealed from, but the court may, on application, on notice to the Board, and on due cause shown, grant a restraining order and on final hearing may reverse or affirm, wholly or partly, or may modify the decision reviewed.

B. File, at any time within fifteen (15) days after the board has rendered its decision, an appeal with the clerk of the legislative body. The legislative body shall hear the appeal and may affirm or reverse, in whole or in part, or may modify the board's decision. The authority to file a complaint, as provided in subsection (a) of this section, may be used in lieu of or in addition to the appeal provided in this subsection. In hearing an appeal from the board, the legislative body is bound by the record presented to the board, and may not consider new evidence or reweigh the evidence previously presented to the board.

C. For the purpose of this section, the decision of the board is "rendered" when the board orally pronounces its decision during a public meeting, so long as the oral pronouncement is sufficient to provide reasonable notice of the board's final decision.

Sec. 3-126 -- 3-128. RESERVED

## ARTICLE XV. CITIZEN SIGN CODE COMMITTEE

Sec. 3-129. CREATION

A Citizen Sign Code Committee is hereby created to assist the Mayor and Council by reviewing and recommending to the Mayor and Council amendments to Chapter 3 relating to the regulation of advertising and outdoor signs in the City of Tucson.

#### Sec. 3-130. AUTHORITY

##### A. GENERAL

Consistent with Section 3-129, the Citizen Sign Code Committee shall hold hearings and make specific recommendations as appropriate, or deemed necessary, to the Mayor and Council on:

1. Proposed additions or amendments to, or deletion of, the specific requirements of Tucson Code, Chapter 3, "Advertising and Outdoor Signs".
2. Sign code enforcement including, but not limited to, enforcement procedures, budgetary, and personnel requirements.

The Citizen Sign Code Committee shall hold at least one public hearing on any sign code matter which may be forwarded to the Mayor and Council for their consideration.

##### B. NOTICE

The Citizen Sign Code Committee shall give notice of the time and place of hearings including, as appropriate:

1. An explanation of the subject matter to be considered, including references to specific sections of the Tucson Code, Chapter 3 as necessary.
2. Information on the availability of any studies or summaries of the subject matter of the hearing.

Notice shall be given not less than 15 nor more than 30 calendar days before the hearing by:

1. Publication for three consecutive days in a newspaper of general circulation in the City of Tucson.

2. Such other manner as the Citizen Sign Code Committee may deem necessary.

#### Sec. 3-131. COMPOSITION

##### A. NUMBER OF MEMBERS

The Citizen Sign Code Committee shall be composed of 11 members who shall serve without compensation.

##### B. SPECIAL COMMITTEES

The Citizen Sign Code Committee may create such special committees as it may, from time to time, deem necessary or desirable. The members of such committees may be selected either from among the members of the Citizen Sign Code Committee or residents of the City of Tucson qualified to contribute to the work of the special committee or both.

#### Sec. 3-132. APPOINTMENT AND TERMS.

##### A. APPOINTMENT

1. The Mayor and Council shall each appoint 1 member to the Citizen Sign Code Committee.
2. The City Manager shall appoint 4 members to the Citizen Sign Code Committee.

##### B. TERMS

The terms of members of the Citizen Sign Code Committee appointed by the Mayor and Council shall be coterminous with the terms of the Mayor and members of the Council who appointed them or until their successors on the Citizen Sign Code Committee are appointed. Initial terms of City Manager appointees shall be staggered as follow: 1 year, 2 years, 3 years, and 4 years. All City Manager appointments thereafter shall be four (4) years.

##### C. CITY EMPLOYEES, ELECTED OFFICIALS EXCLUDED.

No member of the Citizen Sign Code Committee may be a City employee or hold a City elective office.



### Sec. 3-133 VACANCIES

Vacancies on the Citizen Sign Code Committee shall be filled by appointment in the same manner in which members are initially appointed as provided in Section 3-132A.

Appointments to fill vacancies caused by expiration of terms shall be filed with the City Clerk not later than 30 days after expiration of the term, and appointments to fill other vacancies shall be filed with the City Clerk not later than 30 days after the creation of the vacancy. Appointments to fill unexpired terms shall be only for the duration of the term.

If no appointment for a position has been made within 30 days of the effective date of the vacancy, the position may be filled by a majority vote of the Mayor and Council.

### Sec. 3-134. MEETINGS

The Citizen Sign Code Committee shall meet at least semiannually consistent with the requirements of Section 3-130.

Special meetings, with proper notice, may be called by the Chairperson of the Citizen Sign Code Committee, upon request of the majority of the Citizen Sign Code Committee members, or upon a formal request by a majority of the Mayor and Council.

A majority of the Citizen Sign Code Committee members shall be necessary to conduct business and to adopt and forward any recommendations to the Mayor and Council.

### Sec. 3-135. REMOVAL

A member of the Citizen Sign Code Committee may be removed by a two-thirds vote of the Mayor and Council after a public hearing and the filing of a written statement of the reasons for removal.

### Sec. 3-136. ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES

#### A. CITY MANAGER

The City Manager shall ensure that all City departments and persons under his authority shall cooperate in providing assistance and data to the Citizen Sign Code Committee.

**B. EXECUTIVE SECRETARY**

The Development Services Center Building Code Administrator, City of Tucson, or his designee shall serve as Executive Secretary for the Citizen Sign Code Committee.

**C. CHAIRPERSON AND OTHER OFFICERS**

The Citizen Sign Code Committee shall elect a chairperson and vice-chairperson and such other officers as it may deem necessary from its members. The term of chairperson and vice-chairperson and other officers shall be for 1 year subject to 1 additional term of 1 year.

PASSED, ADOPTED, AND APPROVED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL  
of the City of Tucson, Arizona,

Ordinance #5102 - February 4, 1980

Ordinance #5217 - September 2, 1980 (emergency clause)  
Ordinance #5346 - July 8, 1981 (emergency clause)  
Ordinance #5550 - April 19, 1982 (emergency clause)  
Ordinance #5717 - February 26, 1983 (emergency clause)  
Ordinance #5778 - May 23, 1983 (emergency clause)  
Ordinance #5887 - October 11, 1983 (emergency clause)  
Ordinance #6311 - September 23, 1985 (effective 12-5-85)  
Ordinance #6737 - July 7, 1987 (emergency clause)  
Ordinance #6867 - February 22, 1988 (emergency clause)  
Ordinance #7277 - September 11, 1989 (emergency clause)  
Ordinance #7455 - August 6, 1990 (emergency clause)  
Ordinance #7768 - April 6, 1992 (effective 30 days after adoption)  
Ordinance #8281 - June 6, 1994 (effective 30 days after adoption)  
Ordinance #8634 - January 8, 1996 (effective 30 days after adoption)  
Ordinance #8635 - January 8, 1996 (effective 30 days after adoption)  
Ordinance #8983 – November 10, 1997 (effective 30 days after adoption)  
Ordinance #8985 – November 10, 1997 (effective 30 days after adoption)  
Ordinance #8986 – November 10, 1997 (effective 30 days after adoption)  
Ordinance #9123 - September 14, 1998 (effective 30 days after adoption)  
Ordinance #9128 – September 14, 1998 – effective 10-15-1998  
Ordinance #9470 - October 9, 2000 (emergency clause)  
Ordinance #9537 - May 14, 2001 (effective 6-21-01)  
Ordinance #9606 – September 10, 2001  
Ordinance #9782 – October 14, 2002  
Ordinance #9805 – January 13, 2003  
Ordinance #9808 – January 13, 2003  
Ordinance #9859 - June 23, 2003